



## Albuterol Inhalers, Spacers and Nebulizers For Use In Schools

RSA 200:54 - RSA 200:57 passed in 2016, allowing New Hampshire school districts to keep a supply of inhalers to use during asthma emergencies. School personnel are able to administer rescue inhalers after completing asthma training by the school nurse. Students must have an Asthma Action Plan and parental permission on file at the school in order to use a school rescue inhaler.

Schools can obtain inhalers, spacers or nebulizers locally by getting a prescription from a healthcare provider. Schools may also contact the Medical Director of a local Convenient MD to obtain a prescription. According to RSA 200:54, a pharmacist may dispense bronchodilators, spacers, or nebulizers in accordance with a prescription issued in the name of a school. Along with the prescription, schools should provide pharmacists with a request that is written on school letterhead and signed by the principal or superintendent. Unfortunately, there are no free programs for obtaining albuterol or spacers at this time, so schools are responsible for the cost of the items.

If you use an emergency albuterol inhaler for a student, you must use a spacer so that the inhaler can be used by other students. There are many types of spacers, but the one that is most practical and reasonably priced for schools is the LiteAire Reusable Disposable Spacer. These are available from School Health, 25/box for \$142.99, or from McGill for \$6.25 each or 25 for \$5.96 each. Once a disposable spacer has been used it can be labeled with that student's name and stored in a zip lock sandwich bag until the end of the school year. It must be discarded at the end of each school year.

For additional information contact the New Hampshire School Nurses Association  
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or the New Hampshire Asthma Control Program  
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