

Standing Order for Undesignated Stock of Albuterol

Date Issued: _____

This order authorizes school nurses, school board employees, employees of a local governing board, and employees, of a local health department within, _____ who have completed a training program in accordance established policies and procedures to possess and administer undesignated stock of albuterol inhalers and valved holding chambers to any student experiencing respiratory distress while in school as authorized in § 22.1-274.2 (D) and § 54.1-3408 (D).

This order is in effect through **June 30, 2024**.

The school should maintain a copy of the standing order, list of personnel trained and policy procedures. An algorithm for undesignated stock albuterol use is available in the Department of Education Use of Undesignated Stock Albuterol in Schools Manual (see Appendix A).

Administration of Albuterol (Inhalation Route)

Mild to Moderate Respiratory Distress

- Never leave the child unattended
- Give four (4) puffs of albuterol with a valved holding chamber, each 15 - 30 seconds apart.
- If available, Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse to obtain vital signs (pulse, respiratory rate, blood pressure, pulse oximetry); repeat every 5 minutes or as needed
- If there is no improvement in symptoms within 10-15 minutes, **repeat** an additional four (4) puffs of albuterol with a valved holding chamber, each puff 15 - 30 seconds apart
- If there is no improvement, call **911**.
- **Proceed to emergency protocol for Severe Respiratory Distress.**

Severe Respiratory Distress Emergency Protocol

- Call 911 immediately
- Never leave the child unattended
- Summon for help, notify parent, and school administration (follow your school division protocol)
- Immediately give eight (8) puffs of albuterol metered dose inhaler (MDI) with a valved holding chamber, each puff 15 - 30 seconds apart
- If no improvement, may give continuous albuterol MDI doses with valved holding chamber, each puff 15 - 30 seconds apart until EMS personnel arrive
- If student becomes unresponsive check for pulse and initiate CPR with rescue breathing
- If available, Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse obtain vital signs (pulse, respiratory rate, blood pressure, pulse oximetry); repeat every 5 minutes or as necessary
- Option: Oxygen usage in the school setting is optional and requires a separate doctor's order
- Continue to monitor the student until EMS arrives

Prescriber:

This order must be renewed annually at the beginning of each school year.