

ALGORITHM FOR
Undesignated Stock Albuterol Inhaler Use for
Mild/Moderate Respiratory Distress

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
vdh.virginia.gov

Mild to Moderate Respiratory Distress Symptom include one or more of the following:

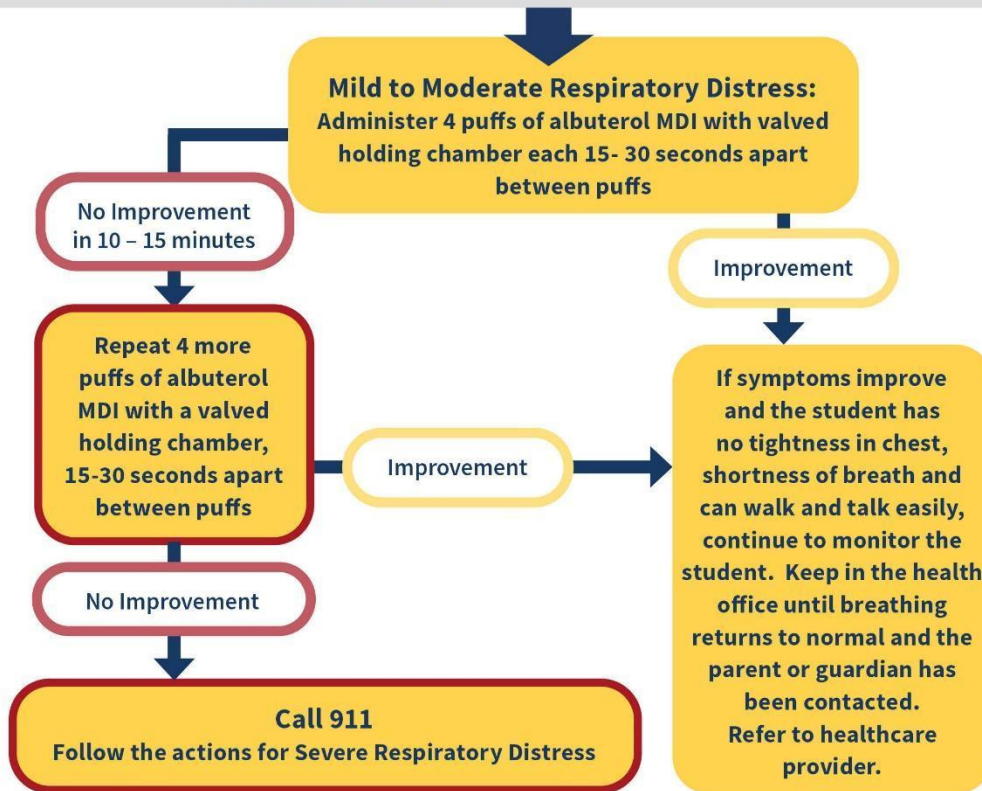


- Struggling to breathe
- Whistling in the chest
- Persistent coughing, chest pain, wheezing, chest tightness
- Noisy breathing
- Shallow breathing
- Decreased breath sounds
- Breathing hard or fast and or shortness of breath

MILD/MODERATE

Based on symptoms, determine that respiratory distress appears to be occurring. Act quickly as it is safer to give albuterol than to delay treatment.

- Never leave a student alone.
- Have the student sit in a chair or on the ground and restrict physical activity
- Summon for help, notify parent and school administration and follow your school division protocol.
- If available, Registered Nurse/Licensed Practical Nurse should obtain and continue to monitor vital signs (pulse, respiratory rate, blood pressure, pulse oximetry (if available) every 5 minutes or as needed.



Use this algorithm if a student does not have an asthma action plan by their healthcare provider and appears to be having respiratory distress.