

HEALTHEAST MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION
MEDICAL OPERATIONS MANUAL

7V NEBULIZED MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

PATIENT CARE GOALS

- Relieve the symptoms of asthma, croup and epiglottitis.

EMT

Assisting with a Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI):

1. Determine if patient has a prescribed metered dose inhaler available that they use for relief of bronchospasm. Verify that the device is the patient's own medication, and has not expired. Call for ALS intercept early.¹
2. Describe procedure to the patient and obtain consent, if possible.
3. Shake the MDI for 30 seconds.
4. Have the patient hold the inhaler upright in their hand.
5. Instruct the patient to exhale fully.
6. Have the patient place their lips around the mouthpiece and inhale slowly and deeply for 5 seconds as the top of the canister is depressed. If the patient is unable to depress the canister, they may be assisted in doing so.
7. Remove the MDI from the patient's mouth and instruct them to hold their breath for 10 seconds.
8. After 10 seconds, have the patient exhale slowly through pursed lips.
9. Reassess patient and administer repeat doses every 5 – 10 minutes as needed.

Using the Small Volume Nebulizer

1. If the need to administer nebulized medication is determined by guideline, verify that the correct medication and dose has been selected and has not expired.

OR

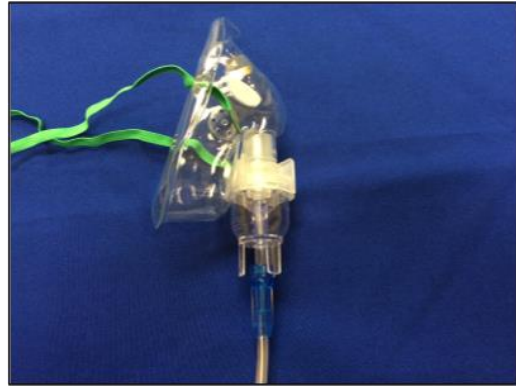
Determine if patient has a small dose nebulizer available which they use for relief of bronchospasm. Verify that the medication is to be placed in the nebulizer is the patient's own medication, and has not expired.

2. Describe procedure to patient and obtain consent, if possible.
3. Remove the cap on the medication reservoir by unscrewing it. While holding the reservoir upright, pour in the medication and replace the cap.
4. Assemble the administration device with the medication reservoir in the order shown in the pictures on the next page.

HEALTHEAST MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION MEDICAL OPERATIONS MANUAL



Hand-held setup



Mask setup

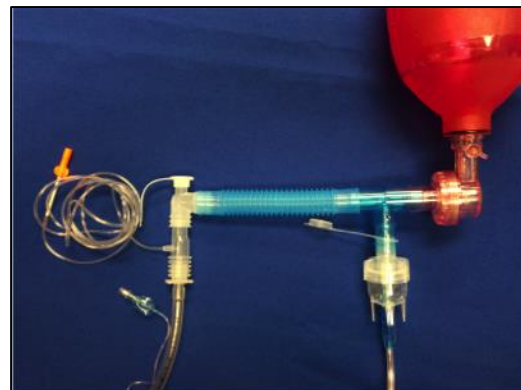
5. Attach the supplied oxygen tubing to the bottom of the medication reservoir and a source of oxygen.
6. Set the oxygen flow to 8-10 L/min. Mist should be visible flowing from the mouthpiece or mask.
7. Reassess patient and repeat treatment as needed and indicated by guidelines.

Using the In-line Nebulizer

1. If the need to administer nebulized medication via in-line method is determined by guideline, verify that the correct medication and dose has been selected and has not expired.
2. Remove the cap on the medication reservoir by unscrewing it. While holding the reservoir upright, pour in the medication and replace the cap.
3. Assemble the administration device with the medication reservoir in the order shown in the picture below. Ensure that the medication chamber is always in a vertical position or the medication will not be administered properly.



CPAP setup



Advanced airway setup

4. Attach the supplied oxygen tubing to the bottom of the medication reservoir and a source of oxygen.
5. Set the oxygen flow to 8-10 L/min. Mist should be visible flowing from the mouthpiece or mask.
6. Reassess patient and repeat treatment as needed and indicated by guidelines.

HEALTHEAST MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION MEDICAL OPERATIONS MANUAL

DOCUMENTATION KEY POINTS

- Initial and repeated assessment of patient's work of breathing.
- Initial and continuous monitoring of oximetry, capnography, and vital signs.
- Route and means of nebulized medication administration.
- Patient's response to medication administration.

NOTES

¹ Assistance by an EMT with administration of an MDI or the patient's own small volume nebulizer is **contraindicated** in the following situations:

- The patient is not responsive enough to hold the MDI or small volume nebulizer
- The patient has taken the maximum allowed doses prior to your arrival
- The medication is not prescribed for the patient

In these cases, other methods should be used to administer the nebulized medications and paramedic supervision is required.