

Pharmacy stamp

Date .....

Dear Dr .....

Our Pharmacy is collaborating with the Local Pharmaceutical Committee on a pilot project entitled **'Enhancing the Spacer Care in a community pharmacy setting'**. We are one of ..... community pharmacies participating in this local initiative.

Correct inhaler technique is key to good asthma control, and for patients prescribed pMDIs, spacers may help poor technique<sup>1,2</sup> as highlighted in a systematic review which found only **52%** of patients using **pMDI with a spacer** made at least **one error** compared with **over 85%** using **pMDI alone**.<sup>2</sup>

From ..... (month) 2021 over a ..... week/month (delete as appropriate) period, we will be taking extra steps to support optimal inhaler technique and improved drug delivery in our pharmacy with respiratory patients prescribed a pMDI. Please find a copy of a sample guidance form that will be discussed and issued to the patient.

Should our pharmacy team identify any patients who would benefit from a spacer or need changes to their existing spacer (e.g. addition or removal of mask) during this process, we will refer the patient back to contact the practice for a spacer prescription review. **Please find a copy of the referral form attached.**

Participating pharmacies will have the opportunity to evaluate this pilot. Evaluation responses will be analysed and we would be happy to inform you of the results.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

.....  
Pharmacist name

.....  
Pharmacist Signature

**References:**

1. Chrystyn H, *et al.* Device errors in Asthma and COPD: systematic literature review and meta-analysis. *Prim Care Respir Med* 2017;27(1):22:1–10. doi: 0.1038/s41533-017-0016-z. 2. Levy ML, *et al.* Asthma patients' inability to use a pressurised metered-dose inhaler (pMDI) correctly correlates with poor Asthma control as defined by the global initiative for Asthma (GINA) strategy: a retrospective analysis. *Prim Care Respir J* 2013;22(4):406–11. doi: 10.4104/pcrj.2013.00084.

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