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Revised Date:

Section 9.4

Personal Metered Dose Inhaler Use (MCA Optional Protocol)

Medical Control Authorities choosing to adopt this supplement may do so by selecting this check box. Adopting this supplement changes or clarifies the referenced protocol or procedure in some way. This supplement supersedes, clarifies, or has authority over the referenced protocol.

Purpose: Nebulized respiratory treatments are preferred over MDI's. This protocol is to allow for the use of the patient's own prescribed Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI) containing only albuterol, in place of nebulized albuterol administration by EMS personnel. This is to be used only in patients with **febrile respiratory symptoms**

- A. To substitute administration of **albuterol 2.5 mg/3ml NS** nebulized with use of the patient's own prescribed MDI the following criteria **MUST** be met.
1. A specific and applicable treatment protocol is being followed
 2. EMS provider administering patient prescribed MDI is MCA authorized to administer **albuterol 2.5 mg/3ml NS** nebulized within the treatment protocol
- B. Indications
1. Patients with febrile respiratory symptoms in need of bronchodilator treatment
- C. Requirements
1. Patient has a prescribed rescue Metered Dosed Inhaler (MDI) containing albuterol only
 2. MDI is prescribed to the patient (no one else)
 3. Medication is not expired
 3. MDI has a functioning spacer (preferred not required)
- D. Procedure
1. Assist patient in receiving four (4) puffs of their own rescue Albuterol Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI), with spacer, in place of each nebulized treatment of **albuterol 2.5 mg/3ml NS** as indicated in applicable treatment protocol.
 2. Use of a spacer is optimal. When no spacer is available, ensure that that patient breathes out completely before each puff in order to inhale as much medication as is possible.
 3. Do not use an MDI prescribed to another person.
 4. All MDI's should be brought to the hospital with the patient, if transported.

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E. Directions for use an MDI with spacer (Figure 1)



Figure 1

1. Remove the cap from the MDI and spacer. Shake well
2. Insert the MDI into the open end of the spacer (opposite the mouthpiece).
3. Place the mouthpiece of the spacer between the patient's teeth and have them seal their lips tightly around it.
4. Have the patient breathe out completely
5. Press the MDI canister once.
6. Have the patient breathe in slowly and completely through their mouth. If you hear a "horn-like" sound, they are breathing too quickly and need to slow down.
7. Have the patient hold their breath for 10 seconds (count to 10 slowly) to allow the medication to reach the airway of the lung.
8. Repeat the above steps for each puff.
9. Replace the cap on your MDI when finished.