

PHARMACISTS FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE



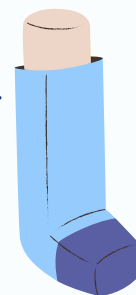
Each metered-dose inhaler (MDI) = carbon footprint equivalent to driving up to **139km** by car (1)

Island Health uses 2,930 inhalers monthly = carbon footprint of driving around the circumference of the earth **4.5 times** (2)

Inhaler loss/waste **↑↑** carbon footprint without contributing to patient care.

Up to **80%** of patients have 1+ identical inhalers dispensed per admission (3)

Up to **98%** of doses per inhaler are wasted (4)



WHAT I CAN DO TODAY

LABEL INHALERS TAKEN OUT OF WARDSTOCK

As part of discharge planning, label inhalers for continued use as outpatient.

REVIEW INHALER TECHNIQUE WITH YOUR PATIENT

To help them get the most out of their medication - whether this is a new or existing inhaler!

www.lung.ca/lung-health/how-use-your-inhaler/



ASSESS APPROPRIATENESS OF SWITCHING TO DPI

Discuss with the care team and patient for shared decision making

FOR PLANNED SHORT ADMISSIONS

Ask the patient to bring in their own inhalers (formulary and non formulary) to reduce waste

The Critical Air Project

1. Stoyanova V, Culley C. 2022. Detailed Inhaler Carbon Footprint Chart. Retrieved from <https://cascadescanada.ca/resources/tools-templates/#inhalers>
2. Deng M, Culley CL, Stoyanova V. An Assessment of Inhaler Workflow and Disposal Practices Among Nursing Staff. 2022. Unpublished.
3. Sakaan S, Ulrich D, Luo J, Funch CK, Self TH. Inhaler Use in Hospitalised Patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease or Asthma: Assessment of Waste Doses. *Hosp Pharm.* 2015;50(5):386-390.
4. Aeng ESY, McDougal KC, Allegretto-Smith EM, Tejani AM. Hidden Costs of Multiple-Dose Products: Quantifying Ipratropium Inhaler Wastage in the Hospital Setting. *Can J Hosp Pharm.* 2021;74(2):117-121.

**WANT TO LEARN MORE?
WANT TO GET INVOLVED?**

VALERIA.STOYNOVA@ISLANDHEALTH.CA
CELIA.CULLEY@ISLANDHEALTH.CA

