

# PROJECT : INHALERS

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## WHAT?

Improve care through using the Greener Practice High Quality, Low Carbon Asthma toolkit.  
Improve device technique. Work with patients to change to lower carbon alternatives that are easier to use by patients - ie less MDIs and more DPIs.

## WHY?

Improve patient care, reduce disease burden, improve outcomes, reduce hospital admissions as well as reduced environmental impact

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## HOW?

Made a plan including  
Using national asthma guidelines and Greener Practice toolkit  
Ran searches to identified patients suitable for switch and working on contacting these patients  
Provided a teaching session to GPs / nurses / pharmacists  
Sent e-mails summarising the teaching session as reminders of the virtues of DPI inhalers, and how to conduct inhaler switches safely  
Begun work on switching patients over to greener inhalers in asthma reviews, and also opportunistically in emergency clinics when patients have exacerbations (suggesting poor control and therefore providing scope to optimise control).  
Ran a search for patients prescribed Salabutamol MDI generically in the last 12 months. These switched to Salamol. Informed patients via messaging.  
Change first line prescribing to salamol

## WHO?

Clinical staff, pharmacy staff, nurses, HCSs

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## WHAT WENT WELL?

A teaching session has started to encourage a culture shift in prescribing DPI versions of inhalers first line, and helped to spread the message about the importance of greener prescribing.  
Overall, easy to do.

## EVEN BETTER IF?

Some GPs felt they did not have time to go through inhaler switches in appointments due to time constraints.  
Some patients felt uncomfortable about switching inhalers.

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## RESOURCES

Greener Practice High Quality Low Carbon Asthma Toolkit  
<https://www.greenerpractice.co.uk/high-quality-and-low-carbon-asthma-care/>

Doing what we do, but a bit greener

Dr Matt Sawyer



See Sustainability