

Table 1: Common errors while using inhalers and how we can help		
Inhaler type	Common Error in Technique ^{1,7,11,12}	Pharmacist Recommendation
MDIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to replace cap after using inhaler 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaving the cap off can get the actuator dirty and reduce drug delivery. Recommend that the patient to always replace the cap after using the inhaler.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to prime MDI prior to first use or after long duration of non-use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to prime the inhaler prior to use may lead to release of erratic drug doses. Prime the device for the patient prior to leaving the pharmacy, and recommend that the patient primes the device again if not used within 2 weeks.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing to use an empty MDI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MDI may continue to spray despite the canister being empty. Recommend that the patient checks the dose log on the inhaler (if available); or, if the patient's symptoms fail to respond and the inhaler appears empty it should be replaced.
MDI with VHC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child is crying and caregiver continues to administer inhaled dose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crying can cause leaks in the facemask seal, reducing drug delivery. Recommend that the caregiver soothes the child and administers the dose once the child is more comfortable.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to air dry the VHC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using a paper towel to dry the VHC will create electrostatic charge on the chamber walls, leading to drug aerosol adherence to the chamber. Recommend that caregivers air dry the VHC after cleaning it.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to tightly insert MDI mouthpiece into the VHC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A tight seal should be achieved between the mouthpiece of the MDI and the VHC to maximize drug delivery. Recommend patients tightly assemble the MDI to the VHC before each use.
DPIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exhaling into the mouthpiece 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exhaling into the device will result in loss of the loaded medication. Recommend patients exhale away from the device prior to administering their dose.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to load dose in the correct position (ie. holding device upside down) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loading the dose in the incorrect position will result in the dose being lost.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breathing too slowly while taking the dose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPIs are breath-activated and require a deep, forceful inhalation to receive the full dose contents.