

## Spacer Devices In Children – Ensuring the Right Device for the Right Age

A spacer should usually be prescribed for use with a pressurised metered dose inhaler, particularly in children. A face mask is required until a child can breathe reproducibly using the spacer mouthpiece, however from approximately 4 years of age children should be able to competently use a spacer without a mask. As children grow the spacer device +/- face mask they require will change. Using the wrong device for their size and stage of development may mean they are not getting the full dose of their asthma medication.

EasyChamber® is the preferred spacer in SWL. The anti-static chamber of EasyChamber traps and holds medication in suspension in the chamber until the patient is ready to inhale. This reduces the need for good coordination between inhalation and inhaler actuation and reduces oropharyngeal deposition. The EasyChamber® has the following age recommendations:

 <p><b>Infant Mask 0-24 months</b> <b>£6.53</b></p>	 <p><b>*Child Mask 2-6 years</b> <b>£6.55</b></p>	 <p><b>*Adult Mask 6 yrs plus</b> <b>£6.59</b></p>	 <p><b>Adult 6yrs</b> <b>£3.98</b></p>
--	--	--	---

\*TriOn Pharma state a key feature of the EasyChamber is its detachable mask, which allows the same spacer to be used either with or without a mask.

- Volumatic spacers (Volumatic® and Volumatic Paediatric Mask®) are still available for patients requiring a larger volume spacer. Some older children (and adults) may need a spacer with a mask, for example patients with learning disabilities or those with complex physical needs.
- For information on inhaler compatibility and licensing please refer to individual manufacturer product information and [RightBreathe](#) for further information.

### Actions for clinicians:

- For children approximately 4 years of age, consider prescribing a spacer with a mouthpiece unless there are specific concerns about their ability to use a mouthpiece.
- Appropriate training and assessment of correct technique is required to ensure that the child can use a spacer without a mask.
- If a spacer with a mask is required in older children, ensure the correct size mask is supplied.
- Ensure patients and their carers are given clear instructions on how to use their inhaler and spacer. Asthma UK have a wide range of videos which can be used for patient education:
  - ◆ [How to use a spacer with tidal breathing \(5-breaths technique\)](#)
  - ◆ [How to use a spacer with a mask for a baby or child](#)
  - ◆ [How to use a spacer without a mask for a child](#)

Give patients information on [how to look after their spacer devices](#). Remind them to clean their spacers before the first use (following manufacturer's instructions) and to replace their spacers every 6-12 months.

### References:

1. NICE NG245: [Asthma: diagnosis, monitoring and chronic asthma management \(BTS, NICE, SIGN\)](#) Accessed on 15/12/25
2. Asthma UK: [Spacers | Asthma + Lung UK](#) Accessed on 15/12/25
3. Rightbreathe: [EasyChamber Spacer \(TriOn Pharma Ltd\) 1 device - RightBreathe](#) Accessed on 15/12/25
4. [Drug Tariff | NHSBSA](#) accessed 15/12/25