

**PULMONARY MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION  
EMMCO WEST ALS GUIDELINE**

**Criteria:**

- A. Referring protocol indicates that a patient's condition is indicative of medication administration via inhalation with a nebulizer or metered dose inhaler

**Exclusion Criteria:**

- A. Patient has allergy to the medication referred to in protocol.

**Procedure:****A. Nebulizer**

1. Use appropriate BSI
2. Confirm the indication, medication, dose, and expiration date
3. Fill reservoir with medication, dilute if necessary with 3-5 cc of sterile saline
4. Attach oxygen source
5. Set regulator to 5-8 LPM.
6. Place device in patients mouth or place mask on face. If using a mouthpiece, instruct patient to seal lips around device. With mouthpiece and mask have patient inhale as deeply as possible, holding the medication for several seconds.

**B. Metered Dose Inhaler**

1. Use appropriate BSI
2. Confirm the indication, medication, dose, and expiration date
3. Assemble canister and mouthpiece
4. Remove mouthpiece cap
5. Shake for 5 seconds gently
6. Have patient seal mouth around inhaler
7. When patient inhales, press the canister down to allow medication to release.
8. Instruct patient to hold breath for several seconds
9. Have patient remove inhaler from mouth and breathe normally.
10. If second dose is required, follow manufactures recommendations on canister.

**Notes:**

1. For a severely symptomatic patient, use a nebulizer as opposed to a metered dose inhaler.

**Possible Medical Command Orders:**

- A. See specific protocol