

ASTHMA ACTION PLAN FOR CHILDREN 0-4 YEARS

HOW CAN AN ASTHMA ACTION PLAN HELP?

An asthma action plan is a set of instructions from your doctor or nurse practitioner. It explains how to manage asthma each day, when to change or add medications based on symptoms (cough, wheeze, chest tightness and/or shortness of breath) and when to seek emergency medical help. Research shows that following an asthma action plan can reduce flare-ups and emergency room visits.

WHY DOES AN ASTHMA ACTION PLAN HAVE 3 DIFFERENT COLOURS?

An action plan has 3 different colours, to show the **GREEN**, **YELLOW** and the **RED** Zones. Each zone shows the level of asthma control and what actions should be taken based on symptoms.



The **GREEN** zone means **asthma** is well-controlled because:

- I do not have asthma symptoms more than once a week
- I do not need reliever medication more than once a week
- I am able to run, play, and keep up with friends
- I do not have asthma symptoms at night time
- I have not missed any school or activities due to asthma





The YELLOW Zone means asthma is NOT well-controlled because one or more of these statements apply:

- I have asthma symptoms more than once a week
- I need reliever medication more than twice a week
- I am not able to run, play, or keep up with friends
- I have night time symptoms more than once a week
- I have missed daycare, school or regular activities due to asthma
- I have a cold or virus





The **RED** Zone means an **asthma emergency** because **one or more** of these statements apply:

- My reliever medications only helps for 2-3 hours or less
- I am very short of breath, coughing all the time, wheezing, or have ongoing chest tightness
- I have a hard time speaking
- I have blue lips or nail beds
- I am pale, grey in colour, and sweating
- I have flared nostrils
- I have sunken skin by neck and ribs
- I feel really tired



WHAT DO I DO IF I AM USUALLY NOT IN THE GREEN ZONE?

Speak to a doctor or nurse practitioner about different **CONTROLLER** medication options if asthma is not controlled or not in the Green Zone most of the time.

WHO SHOULD HAVE COPIES OF MY ASTHMA ACTION PLAN?

It is helpful for a parent/guardian, doctor/nurse practitioner, teacher/daycare and pharmacist to have a copy of the *Asthma Action Plan* as well. Keep the action plan in a place that is easy to see!

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Take this plan to be reviewed at each doctor's or nurse practitioner's visit.

Name:								Date:			Age:
Doctor/Nurse Practitioner:								Phone:			
Emergency Contact:								Phone:			
GREEN ZONE My Asthma is WELL-CONTROLLED					YELLOW ZONE My Asthma is NOT WELL-CONTRO				la la		ONE ing an ERGENCY
I will use my CONTROLLER and RELIEVER as prescribed.					I will CHANGE and/or ADD-ON medication as prescribed.				I will GO TO THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT or CALL 911 NOW!		
CONTROLLER: Take daily to prevent asthma symptoms					INCREASE or ADD CONTROLLER				TAKE RELIEVER every 10 - 20 minutes		
Medication / Colour	Dose	# of Puffs	# per Day		Medication / Colour	Dose	# of Puffs	# per Day		Medication	
								\vdash		Additional Notes a	nd Instructions
								+-			
Vaccinations: Stay up to date!					Additional Notes and Instructions						
Additional Notes and Instructions											
					RELIEVER: Take 1-2 puffs every				╢		
RELIEVER: Take when I have asthma				4	4 - 6 hours as needed Medication / Colour Dose # of # per						
symptoms					Medication / Colour	Dose	Puffs	Day			
Medication / Colour	Dose	# of Puffs	# per Day				_	\sqcup		GET HELP!	
										STOP. Sit dowr	
					If your symptoms don't improve in 2-3 days or your RELIEVER lasts 2-3 hours or less,					TAKE RELIEVE 10-20 minutes help	•



This Asthma Action Plan for Children 0-4 Years was created with consultation from health providers, caregivers and people living with asthma.