

## INHALER SWITCHING AND CHOOSING THE RIGHT INHALER

17 November 2023

Dear all,

Firstly, I would like to thank for your positive comments regarding my last correspondence (inhaler switching). The good news is that there will be a safe switching document put together by a multidisciplinary team from the respiratory programme group in Somerset. I am sure it will include the legality i.e., informed consent, good practice and consider prescribing aims, should you wish to switch a patient's inhaler. On this note the LMC will be engaging an excellent external speaker to present over lunchtime (date to follow) the legal implications of prescribing including switching inhalers. So watch this space.

In the meantime, perhaps pausing switching inhalers until the document is available? Whilst waiting for this document and considering the inhaler choice on the formulary in Somerset is not that intuitive and trying to choose what inhaler to use first (143 available) or progress along a pathway can be difficult. I have come across 2 current documents that may help which I find easy to follow and up to date with current thinking. They are produced by the Formulary Subgroup of the Gloucestershire Respiratory Clinical Programme Group. Take a look-

**Asthma** [https://www.gloshospitals.nhs.uk/media/documents/Asthma Inhalers 2023 wTYr3qw.pdf](https://www.gloshospitals.nhs.uk/media/documents/Asthma_Inhalers_2023_wTYr3qw.pdf)

and **COPD** [https://www.gloshospitals.nhs.uk/media/documents/COPD Inhalers 2023.pdf](https://www.gloshospitals.nhs.uk/media/documents/COPD_Inhalers_2023.pdf)

I hope this helps in the meantime.

Kind Regards

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