

AIR PLAN

Using a combined budesonide/formoterol (Symbicort) inhaler

1. Unscrew and remove the protective cover
2. Hold the turbuhaler upright
3. Twist the coloured grip as far as it will go in one direction and then back again until you hear a click
 - Your Turbuhaler is now loaded with a dose of medication
4. Breathe out gently
5. Place the mouthpiece between your lips:
 - Suck in deeply and forcefully through the Turbuhaler. You may not taste or feel the medication
 - Remove the inhaler from your mouth and breathe out. Do not breathe back into the mouthpiece as you will make it damp inside
 - If more than one dose is required, repeat the steps above
 - When you are finished, place the cover back on the inhaler and twist shut
6. Your Turbuhaler has a dose indicator window just below the mouthpiece, when you see red in the window it is time to get a new Turbuhaler



Caring for your turbuhaler

1. Do not wash your Turbuhaler as it will not work properly if it gets wet
2. Wipe the mouthpiece with a dry tissue or cloth



This asthma action plan is completed with your doctor or nurse to help control your asthma. Your plan explains how to control your asthma long term, it helps to identify what to do when you are well, unwell or need help in an emergency.

If you have any questions about how to use this plan discuss it with your doctor or nurse.

Remember:

- Keep your action plan up to date
- Make sure your inhalers aren't empty or out of date
- Take your medications as prescribed
- Ensure you always carry your reliever
- Regularly check your inhaler technique with your doctor or nurse

See your doctor for an influenza vaccination every March

Download [My Asthma](#) app for asthma information, first aid, and an electronic Asthma Action Plan! Available on Google Play or Apple App Store.

FREE app



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Asthma + Respiratory FOUNDATION NZ

AIR Asthma Action Plan



This Asthma Action Plan belongs to:

Better breathing, better living

***Anti-Inflammatory Reliever Therapy**

Know your asthma symptoms

Name: _____

Doctor: _____

Date of plan: _____

Doctor phone: _____

Know when and how to take your medicine

Feeling good

Your asthma is under control when

- You don't have asthma symptoms most days (wheeze, tight chest, a cough or feeling breathless)
- You have no cough or wheeze at night
- You can do all your usual activities and exercise freely
- Most days you do not need extra Symbicort actuations

Your peak flow reading is above: _____

Regularly scheduled Symbicort	actuation(s)	every morning
	actuation(s)	every night
As-needed Symbicort	1 actuation when you need it to relieve your asthma symptoms	

Symbicort is a 2-in-1 treatment used for both prevention and relief of symptoms. Carry this at all times. You do not need an extra inhaler as a reliever.

Other Medication

Severe

Your asthma is getting severe when

- Your asthma symptoms are getting severe (wheeze, tight chest, a cough or feeling breathless)
- **OR** your Symbicort is only helping for 2-3 hours
- **OR** you are using more than 8 actuations a day in total (regular + reliever use)
- **OR** you feel you need to see your doctor

Your peak flow reading is below: _____

Let's take action...

- **You need to see your doctor today**
- Continue any regular Symbicort PLUS 1 actuation of your Symbicort when needed to relieve symptoms
- Start prednisone if you have it:

Prednisone	mg	for	days
and then	mg	for	days

Other instructions:

Emergency

It is an emergency when

- Your symptoms are getting more severe quickly
- **OR** you are finding it hard to speak or breathe
- **OR** your Symbicort is not helping much
- **OR** you are using your Symbicort every 1-2 hours

Your peak flow reading is below: _____

Let's keep calm...

- **Dial 111 for ambulance**
- Keep using your Symbicort as often as needed
- Even if you seem to get better seek medical help right away
- If you haven't started taking your prednisone, start now

Best peak flow: _____

Plan prepared by: _____

Next review date: _____

Signature: _____