

# How to Use a Dry-Powdered Inhaler - Flexhaler (DPI)

You have been prescribed an inhaled medication that is delivered through a dry-powdered inhaler, or DPI, called a Flexhaler. Please follow these instructions when taking your medication.



## How to Use a Flexhaler

- 1. Hold the Flexhaler upright with the brown portion on the bottom.
- 2. Remove the cap from the Flexhaler by twisting off the cap.
- 3. Hold the Flexhaler with the mouthpiece up.
- 4. Turn the brown base all the way to the right and back to the left. You will hear a click. This means that the dose is now loaded.
- 5. Take a deep breath in, turn your head away from the Flexhaler and breathe out all the way.
- 6. Place the Flexhaler mouthpiece in your mouth and seal your lips around the mouthpiece. Make sure your teeth and tongue do not block the mouthpiece.
- 7. Breathe in quickly and as deeply as you can, and completely fill your lungs.

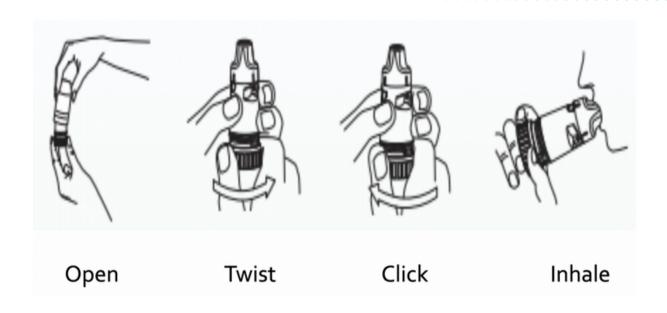
  Remove the Flexhaler from your mouth while holding your breath for 5–10 seconds.

  Breathe out gently.
- 8. Resume normal breathing and repeat the above steps when more than one dose is prescribed.
- 9. Close the Flexhaler cap by twisting it back onto the brown base after you are done breathing in.
- 10. Rinse your mouth thoroughly with water and spit out the water. Do not swallow the water. This will decrease the risk of a mouth infection called thrush (candida infection).

DO DON'T

- Keep the Flexhaler upright once the dose is set.
- Keep your Flexhaler in a dry place at room temperature.
- Do use the dose counter. The dose counter below the mouthpiece shows how many doses are left. The numbers will count down by tens. A zero in the center of the countdown window means that the Flexhaler is empty. Plan to get a refill before you see the zero in the window.
- Do not tip the Flexhaler after the dose is set as it may make the dose drop out of the inhaler before you breathe it in.
- Do not use or store the Flexhaler in a room that gets humid, like a bathroom with a shower.
   Moisture from the humidity can make the drypowder clump.
- Do not wash or put any part of your Flexhaler in water.
- Never shake or breathe into the Flexhaler.
- Never use a chamber or spacer with the Flexhaler.

Unlike other inhaled medications, you may taste or feel the dry powder or there might be a slightly sweet taste. This may be different from what you are used to. As long as you follow the directions, you will get your full dose of medication.



## Resources

### **Pulmicort website:**

https://www.pulmicortflexhaler.com/

#### How to use Pulmicort Flexhaler:

https://www.pulmicortflexhaler.com/asthma-control/pulmicort-flexhaler-instructions.html



contact@inhalecqi.org