

# How to Use Your Flovent HFA (fluticasone)

## 44mcg, 110 mcg, 220 mcg



What is my prescription?	Special Instructions
	Take every day to control your symptoms.
	Rinse mouth thoroughly with water and spit after each use.

## What can I expect while I take this medication?

**Flovent HFA** is an inhaled corticosteroid. It decreases airway swelling and opens small airways. **Flovent HFA** will not provide immediate relief, but you can expect fewer episodes of coughing and wheezing.

## How and when to prime your Flovent HFA:

- Prime inhaler if new, has not been used in 7 weeks, or if you drop it.
- Remove cap, shake inhaler for 5 seconds, and spray it once away from you; repeat for a total of 3 sprays.

#### How to use your Flovent HFA:

- 1. Remove Flovent HFA cap.
- 2. Place middle or index finger on top of canister and thumb underneath the mouthpiece of the inhaler.
- 3. Shake inhaler for 5-10 seconds.
- 4. Breathe out fully (in preparation to breathe in medication).
- 5. Put the mouthpiece in your mouth and close your lips around it. Do not block the mouthpiece with your teeth or tongue.
- 6. Push the top of the canister all the way down one time while breathing in deeply and slowly through your mouth.
- 7. Hold your breath for 5-10 seconds, and then breathe out.
- 8. If your physician has prescribed more than one dose (puff), wait 30 seconds and repeat above.
- 9. Rinse mouth thoroughly with water after taking medication to decrease the risk of a mouth infection. Spit out the water. Do not swallow it.

## How to clean your Flovent HFA:

Clean 1 time per week after your evening dose to prevent medicine from building up and blocking the spray

- 1. Remove the cap.
- 2. Use a clean, dry swab to clean the small circular opening where the medicine sprays out of the canister.
- 3. Wipe the inside of the mouthpiece with a clean tissue dampened with water.
- 4. Let dry overnight.
- 5. Put the cap back over the mouthpiece after it has dried.

## How to use a Spacer: (If recommended for use with your inhaler)

- 1. Remove mouthpiece cap from your inhaler and shake inhaler for 5-10 seconds.
- 2. Attach inhaler to spacer and then remove mouthpiece cap from spacer.

COPD QI Steering Committee
How to Use Your Flovent HFA (fluticasone)

- 3. Hold spacer with the inhaler canister upright.
- 4. Breathe out fully (in preparation to inhale medication).
- 5. Tilt head back slightly and put spacer to mouth and close lips around the mouthpiece (tongue and teeth should not block the mouthpiece opening).
- 6. Release medicine into spacer; squeeze down canister **one** time.
- 7. Breathe the medication slowly and steadily. Continue to breathe in deeply until lungs are full (do not breathe out).
- 8. Hold your breath for 5-10 seconds, and then breathe out. Repeat as directed.

## Do not use Flovent HFA to treat sudden symptoms of your health condition. Always carry a rescue inhaler with you.

- To learn more about your health condition visit: http://www.med.umich.edu/careguides.
- To learn more about the Flovent HFA inhaler visit: <a href="http://www.flovent.com/use/flovent-hfa.html">http://www.flovent.com/use/flovent-hfa.html</a>

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by Michigan Medicine for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by Michigan Medicine and for which Michigan Medicine does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan.

Patient Education by <u>Michigan Medicine</u> is licensed under a <u>Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License</u>. Last Revised 10/2017