How to give an inhalation of medicine with a spacer:

1. Remove the cap of the MDI and make sure it looks clean.
2. Remove the cap of the spacer.
3. Shake the MDI before each use.
4. Insert the MDI into the back piece of the spacer with mask.
5. Put the mask over the mouth and nose and make sure the mask is on the skin.
6. Push down on the top of the MDI one time to spray one dose of medicine into the spacer.
7. Tell, child to breathe in and out normally for at least 6 breaths. If a baby is using this way to take the asthma medicine watch the chest for a rise and fall with breathing for 6 breaths.
8. Repeat Steps 5-7 for the number of doses your doctor told you to use of the medication.

Cleaning the spacer with mask:

1. Read the instructions from the company who made the spacer.
2. All spacers should be cleaned at least once per week.
3. For most spacers, remove the back piece of the spacer; soak the back piece and spacer for 15 minutes in warm water and liquid soap. Rinse well with clean water and air dry with the spacer standing up on a towel.
4. Do not put the spacer in the dishwasher.

How do you know when your child’s MDI is empty?

1. The only way to know if your child’s MDI is out of medicine is to count the doses.
2. Each MDI has a measured number of doses of medication in the canister.
3. When that number of doses is used the MDI is empty of medicine.
4. When it is empty, the MDI may still give out a mist when you press it. This spray at the bottom of the canister is not good to use. It may not have medicine, it may only be the chemical added to the medicine in the canister to help it spray out (propellant).
5. Some MDI’s now have a counter on them to keep track of the doses used.
6. If yours does not have a counter on it, you need to keep track of how many doses are used, and how many is left.