**POLICY: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION BY INHALER**

Purpose: To administer inhalers as prescribed by the attending physician.

EQUIPMENT: Prescribed, properly labeled container of inhalant.

PROCEDURES: 1. Obtain medication/inhaler prescribed.

1. Check inhaler with doctor’s order.
2. Explain procedure to patient.
3. Check label on inhaler with MAR
4. To administer the inhaler;
	1. Shake the inhaler bottle. Remove the cap.
	2. Have the patient exhale, place the mouthpiece in their mouth and close their lips around it.
	3. Instruct the patient to inhale slowly as the bottle is being compressed against the mouthpiece and to continue inhaling until their lungs feel full.
	4. Compress the bottle against the mouthpiece only once then remove the mouthpiece from the patient’s mouth and tell them to hold their breath.
	5. Instruct the patient to exhale slowly through pursed lips.
	6. If more than one puff is required, wait two minutes between puffs.
	7. If different medication, wait five minutes between puffs.

DOCUMENTATION: Medications administered

 Time administered

 Signature of initials