How to Take Your Nebulizer Medicines

Nebulizer With a Compressor Machine

Getting Ready

1. Put the compressor machine on a hard surface, and plug the machine into an outlet.

2. Unscrew the top of the nebulizer cup.

3. Put a dose of medicine in the nebulizer cup.

4. Put the top of the nebulizer back on, and snap on or turn until tight.

5. Put the mouthpiece onto the nebulizer with the valve facing down (outlet away from eyes).

6. Press the tubing firmly to the bottom of the nebulizer.

7. Attach the opposite end of the tubing to the machine’s outlet port.

For more information, please see medication package insert

Created in collaboration with the American Lung Association in Maine
Using the Nebulizer

8. Turn the machine on.

9. Look at the mouthpiece to see if there is a steady mist.

10. Put the mouthpiece in your mouth, and close your lips tightly around the mouthpiece. Breathe in through your mouth.

11. For children under age 5 or if you cannot breathe through your mouth, attach the nebulizer to a face mask. Blowing medicine in the face with the mouthpiece does not get the full dose of medicine into the lungs.

After Use

12. After the nebulizer has stopped misting, turn the machine off. Change the filter on the machine when it turns gray or looks dirty.

13. Clean the nebulizer parts with warm, soapy water or vinegar and warm water. Do not wash the tubing. Change the tubing when it looks wet or dirty.

Rinse your mouth after using an inhaled corticosteroid in a nebulizer.