

Asthma Management Courses Approved Under Section 256B(1) of the *Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996*

Background

Recent amendments to the *Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996* allow for persons with appropriate asthma management training to purchase and administer specific asthma medication for first aid purposes. The regulation states that:

“To the extent necessary to perform first aid at a workplace or community event, a person who has completed an asthma management course approved by the chief executive is authorised to administer S3 salbutamol or S3 terbutaline (s256B(1)).

In this section – community event includes a sporting or recreational event (s256B(2))”.

The chief executive has approved any asthma management course which satisfies *specific learning objectives* as being necessary for successful completion by persons who wish to administer Schedule 3 salbutamol and Schedule 3 terbutaline in accordance with the legislation. The *specific learning objectives* approved by the chief executive are identified in table 1.

Table 1

A course of training that achieves the following specific learning objectives relative to the critical outcomes. The duration for any such course is recommended to be at least one (1) hour. A certificate or document issued by the training provider must identify that the person has achieved successful training in these specific learning objectives.	
Critical Outcome	Specific Learning Objective
1. Recognition of the symptoms and signs of asthma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic knowledge of asthma • Recognition of common symptoms • Recognition of the signs of asthma including Exercise Induced Asthma (EIA) • Recognition of the stages of an attack • Recognition of the signs of worsening asthma
2. Knowledge of appropriate use of reliever medication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of reliever medications and their use • Knowledge of how to use a Spacer device with reliever medication • Knowledge of how to prevent/manage EIA.
3. Ability to implement an Asthma First Aid Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of an Asthma First Aid Plan (including when to call an ambulance/further medical assistance)

Requirements and Responsibilities

Members of the Public

Persons who wish to administer Schedule 3 salbutamol and Schedule 3 terbutaline as first aid at a workplace or community event, **must hold** a certificate or document issued by the training provider that identifies their successful completion of a course of training that incorporates the *specific learning objectives*. It is recommended that the person checks with the training provider, prior to undertaking the training, that such a certificate or document will be issued. The certificate or document **must be available** for viewing when the person purchases Schedule 3 salbutamol and Schedule 3 terbutaline.

Pharmacists and Wholesalers

Pharmacists and wholesalers are **required to ensure** that any person they are selling Schedule 3 salbutamol and Schedule 3 terbutaline to, for first aid purposes, holds a certificate or document from a training provider that identifies the person's successful completion of a course of training that incorporates the *specific learning objectives*.

Training Providers

Training providers offering a course of training including asthma management **will need to provide** a certificate or a document supporting the certificate, that identifies the person's successful completion of the course of training that incorporates the

specific learning objectives, in order for the person to legally purchase and administer Schedule 3 salbutamol and Schedule 3 terbutaline for first aid purposes.

Certificates and/or Documents

A certificate and/or document must be held by persons wishing to administer Schedule 3 salbutamol and Schedule 3 terbutaline as first aid at a workplace or community event. The certificate and/or document needs to clearly provide evidence of:

- the person's name
- the successful completion of the course of training delivered by the training provider
- the course of training incorporating the *specific learning objectives*.

Courses of Training

Queensland Health has considered several courses as to their appropriateness for meeting the approval criteria. As at September 2008, the courses listed in Appendix 1 of this fact sheet have been deemed as satisfactory; as a course of training that achieves the *specific learning objectives* relative to the critical outcomes.

This list is not exhaustive, as the approval includes *any* course of training that achieves the *specific learning objectives* relative to the critical outcomes.

Further Information

For further information contact Environmental Health Services within your local Queensland Health Population Health Unit.

Central Area Population Health Services servicing Brisbane Northside, Longreach, Redcliffe, Rockhampton, Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay. For contact details go to <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/ph/central/default.asp>

Southern Area Population Health Services servicing Brisbane Southside, Darling Downs, Roma, Gold Coast, South West Queensland, West Moreton. For contact details go to <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/ph/southern/default.asp>

Tropical Population Health Network servicing Cairns, Mackay, Mount Isa and Gulf, Townsville. For contact details go to <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/ph/tropical/default.asp>

Appendix 1 – Asthma management courses deemed as satisfactory

The following is a list including courses which have been deemed as satisfactory courses of training achieving the *specific learning objectives* relative to the critical outcomes, as outlined in the chief executive's approval for an asthma management course, under section 256B(1) of the *Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996*.

This list is not exhaustive.

Asthma Foundation courses:

- 30646QLD Course in Asthma Education and Management
- 21386VIC Course in Emergency Asthma Management
- Asthma Friendly Schools Program
- Asthma Friendly Childcare/Children's Service Program

Courses comprising competency units:

- HLTF201A Provide Basic Emergency Life Support
- HLTF301B Apply First Aid
- SRXFAD001A Provide First Aid