



**Prescribing Tip for Information & Action**

**HandiHaler and Respimat Devices**

**Cleaning and refill requirements**

Device type	Example brand	Cleaning requirements	Device replacement	Refill quantity
 <p>Handihaler</p>	<a href="#">Spiriva HandiHaler</a>	Once a month	Every 12 months	30 capsules (One month's supply)
 <p>Respimat</p>	<a href="#">Spiriva Respimat</a> <a href="#">Spolito Respimat</a> <a href="#">Striverdi Respimat</a>	Once a week	Every 6 months	60 puffs (One month's supply)

Replacement capsules / cartridges MUST be prescribed with the corresponding branded device. For example: Spiriva Handihaler Refill Capsules should be used in a Spiriva HandiHaler.

**Spiriva Handihaler refill capsules ARE NOT COMPATIBLE with a [Braltus Zonda](#) inhaler.**

**EMIS Medication Screen Suggestions and prescribing advice**

Pharmacy and Patient Text to include on the EMIS Medication Screen to highlight this information to both healthcare professionals and patients when ordering and dispensing.

**Variable use repeat**

**] Spiriva 18microgram inhalation powder capsules with HandiHaler (Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd)**  
 Inhale The Contents Of One Capsule Once Daily, At The Same Time Of Day., 30 capsule  
 Pharmacy Text - Combo pack to be issued every 12 months. Capsules to be ordered 11/12 months.  
 Patient Text - Use your HandiHaler for up to 1 year and then re-order a new device. Replacement capsules to be ordered 11 out of 12 months. Clean the HandiHaler once a month.

**Variable use repeat**

**] Spiriva Respimat 2.5micrograms/dose inhalation solution cartridge with device (Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd)** Two Puffs To Be Inhaled Once Daily, 1 x 60 dose  
 Pharmacy Text - Combo pack to be issued every 6 months. Cartridges to be ordered 5/6 months.  
 Patient Text - Use your Respimat device for up to 6 months and then re-order a new device. Replacement cartridges to be ordered 5 out of 6 months. Clean the Respimat once a week.

- Prescribe combo packs as “**Variable Use Repeat**” to highlight to prescription team members that they are **NOT** for monthly prescribing.
- Prescribe replacement capsules/cartridges as “**Repeat**” to highlight to the prescription team members that they **ARE** for monthly prescribing (with the exception of the month/s that the combo pack is/are ordered).

The relevant searches will be sent to your practice Medicines Co-ordinators to highlight the patients currently prescribed these devices. Please add the recommended Pharmacy and Patient Texts. Please check the dosages.

**Dose Check**

Dose errors have been identified in these devices across Central Lancashire. The licensed dose for

- **Handihalers – ONE capsule contents inhaled ONCE DAILY**
- **Respimat’s – TWO Puffs inhaled ONCE DAILY**



This could help reduce the number of devices being ordered and wasted which in turn will help toward the Greener NHS Agenda.