

THE STOCK INHALER FOR SCHOOLS PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2024



Message from the Stock Inhalers for Schools Team

We hope you had a lovely Winter Break and start of the new year. We look forward to working with your school(s) in 2024.

We are thrilled to introduce our newest team member, **Megan Peterson, BSN, RN, MPH**. Megan is our school nurse personal trainer and educator. Learn more about Megan on the last page of the newsletter!

The start of the new semester is a good time to **take an inventory of your inhalers and spacers and review any staffing changes**. Steps to request supplies and train new staff are outlined in the newsletter.

Finally, we have recently **revamped our website!** This is a great place to send colleagues to learn about the Stock Inhalers for Schools Program and access resources for your school(s). More details below!

Sincerely,
The Stock Inhaler for Schools Team (Dr. Ashley Lowe, Nathan Mottern, Megan Peterson, & Emily Waldron)

Do you know of an Arizona school interested in the Stock Inhaler for Schools Program? Send them our revamped website!

During Fall 2023, our intern, undergraduate Nees Abusaada, updated the website to include: program resources, testimonials, steps for schools to enroll in the program, and answers to frequently asked questions. This is a great resource for school personnel to learn more about the program!

[Check out the website here.](#)

We are grateful to the Arizona Asthma Coalition for hosting the Stock Inhalers for Schools Program Website!

Supplies for the New Year

Do you need a new **inhaler or LiteAires** for your school(s)?

Email StockMedications@maricopa.gov with your request. Please note supplies will be ordered according to the number of SSMP documentation logs submitted for each school.

As a reminder, inhalers have an expiration date. The LiteAires® have a shelf life of approximately 5 years.



Data Reporting Reminders

Please ensure that **all** Fall 2023 Stock inhaler events are **accurately** reported in the School Surveillance and Medication Program. This data is crucial to ensure future funding.

How can you help in Spring 2024?

1. Bookmark the [School Surveillance and Medication Program \(SSMP\)](#) website on your computer.
2. Report stock inhaler events in the SSMP within 24 hours of the event so we can track program outcomes and provide appropriate follow-up.
3. **District Leads** – please remind all trained staff of the stock inhaler events reporting procedure.

We are grateful for your support!

Fall 2023 by the Numbers in the School Surveillance and Medication Program (SSMP)

493

OF STOCK ALBUTEROL INHALER INCIDENTS REPORTED

Grades K-6: **208**

Grades 7-8: **54**

Grades 9-12: **53**

Schools with multilevel grades (K-8 or K-12): **172**

Other: **6**

OF STOCK ALBUTEROL INHALER INCIDENTS REPORTED STRATIFIED BY GRADE LEVEL

73

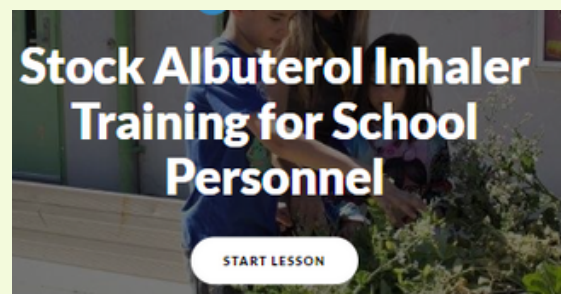
% OF STUDENTS WHO RETURNED TO CLASS AFTER A STOCK ALBUTEROL INHALER INCIDENT

Mid Year Training Check -In

The start of the new semester often is a time for school staffing changes. As a reminder, Arizona Law HB 2208, "Stock Inhalers for Schools" requires that at least **(2)** on-site staff at each school complete the web-based curriculum "Stock Albuterol Inhaler Training for School Personnel."

If a trained staff member selected to administer the stock albuterol inhaler left the school:

- Please select another staff member to complete the training. The training is online, self-paced, and takes 30-45 minutes to complete.
- Once new staff are trained and have received their completion certificates, please add the new staff member to the SSMP and upload their certificate.



Instructions to access the training are in the 2023-24 Stock Inhaler for Schools Program Toolkit.

Remind families about the Stock Inhaler for Schools Program

The cold, dry air, along with winter colds and the flu, often cause asthma flare-ups. This is a great time to remind families about the Stock Inhaler for Schools Program.

On our updated website, find template letters, in both English and Spanish, and informational Stock Inhaler for Schools Program one-pagers for parents and/or guardians. The letters can also be found in the toolkits.

Schools are welcome to tailor the letters as needed.

How has the Stock Inhaler Program benefited students at your school?

"Recently, a student walked into our health office wheezing. She did not take her daily controller medication that morning. The student shares her inhaler with a sibling and the sibling had the inhaler with her that day. I administered the stock inhaler, the student's breathing returned to normal, and after observation, the student returned to class."

-Arizona School Health Nurse

OUR PARTNERS





MEGAN PETERSON BSN, RN, MPH

New addition to
Dr. Lowe's Team!

Megan Peterson is a current clinical research nurse working at the University of Arizona's Asthma and Airway Disease Research Center and is a spring 2023 MPH MEZCOPH graduate with an emphasis in health promotion and health behavior.

C O N T A C T

P 520-621-8913
E mpeterson1@
arizona.edu

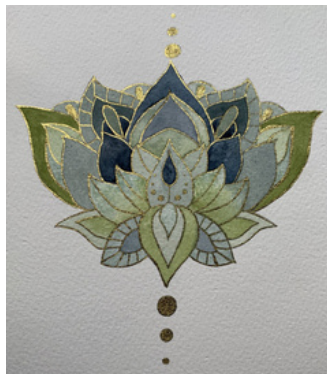


Work Experience

- Clinical Research Nurse II at UA A2DRC
- Medical ICU RN at Mayo Clinic, Rochester
- Local RN COVID contract at Tucson Medical Center
- Patient Care Technician in Trauma ICU at Banner University Medical Center- Tucson

Professional/Extracurricular

- President of Student Nurses Association for NAU BSN
- Final semester in nursing school
- Special interest international public health course, semester spent in Netherlands



Fun Things!

I'm a Tucson native and dog owner(see pic). My free time is spent with my doggo, going to movies, watercolor painting, being with friends and family, and attending events around town.