

# Fact sheet: Approved asthma management courses

October 2019

## Purpose

This fact sheet specifies the required learning objectives for an asthma management course to be considered a 'Queensland Health approved course' under the *Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996 (HDPR)*.

## Background

In accordance with the HDPR, any person who has completed an asthma management course approved by the chief executive of Queensland Health is authorised to administer Schedule 3 salbutamol or Schedule 3 terbutaline (blue/grey reliever medication) in the event of a suspected asthma emergency at a school, workplace or community event, including a sporting or recreational event.

## Course requirements

An asthma management course that delivers the following specific learning objectives relative to the critical outcomes, can be considered a course approved by the chief executive of Queensland Health.

Critical outcome	Specific learning objective
1. Recognition of the symptoms and signs of asthma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic knowledge of asthma</li> <li>• Recognition of common symptoms</li> <li>• Recognition of the signs of asthma including Exercise Induced Asthma (EIA)</li> <li>• Recognition of the stages of an attack</li> <li>• Recognition of the signs of worsening asthma</li> </ul>
2. Knowledge of appropriate use of reliever medication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of reliever medications and their use</li> <li>• Knowledge of how to use a spacer device with a reliever medication</li> <li>• Knowledge of common side effects of reliever medication (e.g. tremor and/or tachycardia)</li> <li>• Knowledge of how to prevent/manage EIA</li> </ul>
3. Ability to implement an Asthma First Aid Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of an asthma First Aid Plan (including when to call an ambulance/further medical assistance)</li> </ul>

It is recommended that any asthma management training course be at least one (1) hour in duration.

## Which courses are acceptable?

Any course that meets the above requirements is acceptable; the course does not need to be specific to asthma management. For example, first aid courses that incorporate asthma management, i.e. courses that contain the accredited units: *HLTAID003*, *HLTAID004*, *HLTAID005*, *HLTAID006*, are accepted as meeting the specific learning objectives.

## Further information

### Enquiries related to training courses

**For enquiries related to asthma management courses please contact training providers.**

The Australian Government website [myskills.gov.au](https://myskills.gov.au) provides information on courses and providers.

For more information on the purchase and use of asthma medicines, see the fact sheet: [Accessing medicines for use in first aid management of asthma and anaphylaxis in the community](#).

### Enquiries related to medicines approvals under the HDPR

Healthcare Approvals and Regulation Unit (HARU)

Tel: 07 3708 5264

Email: [HARU@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:HARU@health.qld.gov.au)

www: [health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/licences/medicines-poisons/approvals-authorities](https://health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/licences/medicines-poisons/approvals-authorities)