

'INSPIRE' Inhaler Recycling Scheme – Welcome Letter



Dear Pharmacist,

We are writing to request your support for the INSPIRE Inhaler Recycling Scheme which is designed to improve the recycling rate of inhalers from patients.

Most inhalers when the patient no longer uses or requires them are disposed of at home through domestic waste bins. This means that millions of pressurised metered dose inhalers end up in landfill each year, where, over time, they will release residual HFCs into the atmosphere.

The INSPIRE scheme is designed to safely and effectively support your patients to recycle their empty, unwanted, or out-of-date inhalers by returning them to your pharmacy or through the collection points in New Cross Hospital and Cannock Chase Hospital. This will mean that the harmful HFCs will be incinerated, and the plastic body of the inhaler will be recycled.

The collection bin will be provided and emptied by the waste and recycling team at The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust.

We are asking your pharmacy to support with:

- The promotion and in-pharmacy awareness of the service to patients for whom you dispense inhalers.
- Encouraging your patients to return empty, unwanted, or out-of-date inhalers for recycling at your pharmacy or the collection points mentioned above.
- To place only the inhaler in the bin provided by the scheme and email rwh-tr.wastemanagement@nhs.net for collection when the bin is $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
- Signing an annual waste transfer notice on delivery of the bin and renew each year. The waste transfer note **must** be kept by the pharmacy for **2 years** from the date of issue.

To register your interest in this scheme please provide the following details to: madeline.ohare@nhs.net by Friday 17th March 2023.

Name of key pharmacy contact	
E-mail address of key contact	
Pharmacy address	
Pharmacy telephone number	

Please note your details may be shared with the project stakeholders and used to support your implementation of the service. Your details will only be used for the purposes of this service and retained for the duration of this service.

This inhaler recycling scheme is organised and funded by The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust in partnership with The Black Country Integrated Care Board and running throughout the City of Wolverhampton. The scheme is also supported by Wolverhampton Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC) and Plastics Europe

Working in partnership

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust

