

Initial Assessment
In a child > 2 years of age with signs and symptoms of an asthma exacerbation

Brief history, physical examination (auscultation, use of accessory muscles, heart rate, respiratory rate), oxygen saturation, and other tests as indicated

In addition to treatment per the Severe PowerPlan, consider:

- [Epinephrine](#)
- [Continuous Positive Airway Pressure](#), [Non-invasive spontaneous timed positive airway pressure](#), or Endotracheal intubation

Is there [Impending/Actual](#) Respiratory Arrest?

Yes

No

Is it a [Mild, Moderate, or Severe](#) Exacerbation?

Severe

Mild

Moderate

SEVERE
[PRAM Score](#) > 8

- [Oxygen](#)
- [Albuterol](#) (nebulized, continuous)
- [Corticosteroid](#) (oral, IV, or IM)
- [Ipratropium](#) (nebulized continuous)

Should Consider:

- [Magnesium sulfate](#) IV

MODERATE
[PRAM Score](#) 5-7

- [Oxygen](#)
- [Albuterol](#) (MDI with spacer)
- [Corticosteroid](#) (oral, IV, or IM)

Consider:

- [Albuterol](#) (single nebulized, or continuous)
- [Ipratropium](#) (single nebulized or continuous)

MILD
[PRAM Score](#) < 5

- [Oxygen](#)
- [Albuterol](#) (MDI with spacer)

Consider

- Oral [Corticosteroid](#) if greater than 2 albuterol doses are required

Assess response to treatment
(Time zero + 1 hour)

Urgent Care Providers:
Consider the need for transfer to higher level of care for:

- Non-resolution of symptoms requiring escalation in treatment OR
- Patient will require extended time for resolution of symptoms

Are symptoms resolving?

Yes

No

- [Oxygen](#)
- [Albuterol](#)

If not already administered:

- [Corticosteroid](#) (oral, IV, or IM)
- [Ipratropium](#) (nebulised continuous)
- [Magnesium sulfate](#) IV

Assess response to treatment
(Time zero + 2 hours)

Are symptoms resolving?

Yes

No

To Discharge

Yes

- Symptom resolution,
- SABA requirement \geq every 4 hours and
- Able to be cared for at home

To Inpatient algorithm

- Continue care.
- Consider admission if patient requires ongoing continuous albuterol, albuterol more frequent than every 4 hours, or requires oxygen