



March 20, 2006

Dear Practitioner:

We are writing to inform you of a shortage in the supply of albuterol inhalers (MDI). Current inhalers contain a propellant that the EPA is requiring manufacturers to eliminate by December 31, 2008. Although this will occur in the future, many manufacturers have already discontinued the production of albuterol MDIs. Inventory appears to be limited to stock on hand in pharmacies and at drug wholesalers.

To avert potential problems with your asthmatic patients, this would be a good time to remind your patients of the importance of continuous use of an inhaled steroid to minimize the need for albuterol. Since this shortage will likely last until June 2006 when the albuterol inhalers with a new propellant is available in sufficient quantities, patients may still obtain albuterol solution. The solution requires a nebulizer which is a covered benefit for Molina Healthcare members.

If you have any further questions or concerns please feel free to contact Tana Meadows at 888-884-9527. Thank you for your attention to this important situation. We appreciate the quality of care you provide our members and we thank you for your continued support.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeff Campbell, RPh  
Director Pharmacy Services