Inhalers are a common treatment for managing asthma. Here are directions on how to clean your child’s metered dose inhaler, or MDI.

**HOW TO CLEAN AN MDI**

1. Remove the cap from the canister. Set it aside.

2. Hold the plastic case under warm running water until all the powdery build-up is cleared.

3. Let the cap and plastic case airdry.

4. When dry, put the canister back inside the plastic case.

5. Prime the MDI.

**HOW TO PRIME THE MDI**

The MDI needs to be primed if:

- The MDI is new
- Your child has not used their MDI in 2 weeks or more
- When you clean the MDI

**Here is how to prime the MDI:**

1. Shake the MDI for 5 seconds.

2. With the MDI pointed away from you and others’ faces, press down on the canister to release a puff of the medication.

3. Wait 30 seconds to 1 minute. Repeat steps 1 and 2 once more before use. The number of puffs depends on the type of MDI.