**Help your patients make the switch to greener inhalers**

Inhalers make a significant contribution to Greater Manchester’s carbon footprint. In any given month, over 300,000 inhalers are prescribed in our city region - equivalent to the emissions from 28,000 cars.

Metered dose inhalers (MDI) use powerful greenhouse gases as propellants. Many patients find a greener dry powder inhaler (DPI) helps to relieve their symptoms at least as well as a MDI – with the added benefit of a lower carbon footprint.

An increase in the use of greener inhalers will help to achieve Greater Manchester’s target of a net zero carbon footprint by 2038. You can help by supporting patients to choose an inhaler that is best for them – and the environment. This discussion could form part of a patient’s regular asthma review.

A new campaign from NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care (NHS GM) aims to raise awareness and encourage more patients to make the change. It launches this week with the release of a [new video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nSeXk0JJRac&feature=youtu.be) that sees patients sharing their experiences of switching to greener inhalers. A range of resources have been created as part of the campaign, including social media images, videos, and posters. Click [here](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1A6ZRxHtoz4ikTofJ2_G9ZzFebP1bhHWX) to download. You can also read and share the [campaign briefing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_OmZcMI0MNhkl4lWoLesummKUaPbm22U).

Don’t forget to remind patients that all used inhalers should be taken to pharmacies for safe disposal. If they are included with general waste, they can become damaged, releasing residual greenhouse gases and medicines into the environment.

This initiative is part of ambitious plans from NHS GM for a greener NHS for Greater Manchester. [Read the NHS GM Green Plan](https://gmintegratedcare.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/gm-green-plan-2022-final-v1.pdf) to find out more.