

ACUTE ASTHMA



Choosing an Inhaler Device

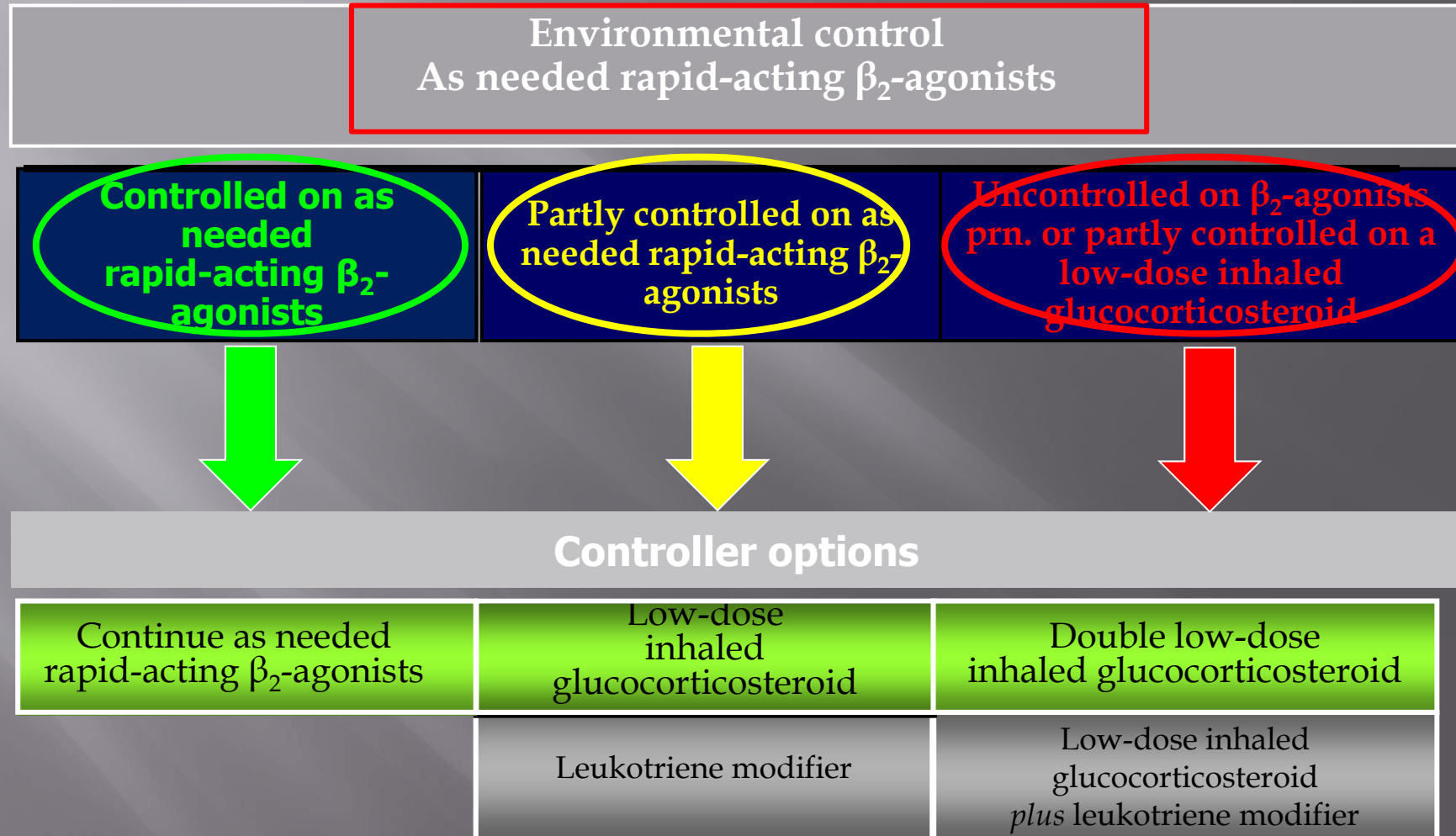
A pressurized metered-dose inhaler (MDI) with a valved spacer (with or without a face mask, depending on the child's age) is the preferred delivery system

Choosing an Inhaler Device

Age group	Preferred device	Alternative device
Younger than 4 years	Pressurized metered-dose inhaler <i>plus</i> dedicated spacer with face mask	Nebulized with face mask
4-5 years	Pressurized metered-dose inhaler <i>plus</i> dedicated spacer with mouth piece	Pressurized metered-dose inhaler <i>plus</i> dedicated spacer with mouth piece, <i>or</i> Nebulizer with mouthpiece or face mask



Asthma Management Approach Based on Control for Children 5 Years and Younger



Oral glucocorticosteroids should be used only for treatment of acute severe exacerbations of asthma. Green shaded boxes represent the preferred treatment options.



Acute Exacerbations of Asthma in Children 5 Years and Younger

Early symptoms of an acute exacerbation:

- Increase in wheeze or shortness of breath
- Increase in coughing, especially at night
- Reduced exercise tolerance
- Impairment of daily activities, including feeding
- A poor response to reliever medication



Acute Exacerbations of Asthma in Children 5 Years and Younger

An action plan should be provided to the family members and caregivers to:

- Recognize an asthma attack and initiate treatment
- Recognize a severe episode
- Identify when urgent treatment is necessary
- Provide specific recommendations for follow-up care

Management of acute exacerbation of Bronchial Asthma











