

Your metered-dose inhaler is changing to help improve the environment

Although chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) in medicines are safe for patients to inhale, they are harmful to the environment. CFCs reduce the amount of ozone in the ozone layer that surrounds the earth and protects the earth against the sun's harmful rays. The loss of ozone can increase the risk of skin cancer, cataracts, and other health problems. Replacing the CFCs in your metered-dose inhaler with another substance, called HFA, will make the environment safer for everyone.

- MDIs with CFCs are being phased out.
- FDA has found these ozone-friendly inhalers to be safe and effective when prescribed for FDA-approved uses.
- Many types of CFC inhalers will continue to be sold until similar HFA inhalers are widely available.

Most HFA inhalers will be clearly marked with the phrase, "HFA," or will state they contain no CFCs.

IN WHAT WAYS WILL AN "HFA" METERED-DOSE INHALER BE...

THE SAME?	DIFFERENT?
Safe and effective for the <u>same</u> FDA-approved uses	Ozone-friendly to the environment
Shape is similar	May be slightly different in smell and taste
Size is similar	
Convenient to use	May need to be cleaned and cared for differently

Discuss the use and care of the HFA metered-dose inhaler with your healthcare professional.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
www.fda.gov/cder/mdi

