

### 1.34 Green inhaler prescribing is limited by lack of awareness among Irish clinicians

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**Background:** In Ireland, inhaled medications account for 4% of healthcare greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, mostly due to the propellant (hydrofluroalkane) in metered dose inhalers (MDIs). Dry-powder inhalers (DPI) and soft mist inhalers (SMI) have significantly lower carbon footprint than MDIs. In 2019, MDIs accounted for 60% of prescribed inhalers nationally. **Methods:** We surveyed all medical, nursing and physiotherapy respiratory team members in our institution regarding awareness of the environmental impact of inhalers. **Results:** Of 35 respondents, 75% reported that environmental considerations would influence their inhaler prescribing, however, almost 40% were not aware that MDIs carry the greatest carbon footprint. While over 60% were aware that MDIs are mainly used in those with poor inspiratory effort, only 20% felt confident making an inhaler change themselves. **Discussion:** Our survey demonstrates a limited knowledge of green inhalers among prescribers. Education and accessible resources are urgently required to reduce the effect of inhaled medications on the environment. The Irish Doctors for the Environment have created a toolkit<sup>1</sup> to address this need. This will be incorporated into our medicines guide to establish Tallaght University Hospital as the first Irish tertiary institution to implement a sustainable inhaler prescribing policy. **Disclosures: Conflict of Interest:** The Authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.