Nebulizer Cleaning & Disinfecting Guidelines

- The new guidelines established by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Cleaning Instructions (2014)
 - The nebulizer must be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
 - Rinsed with sterile water.
 - Placed on a clean towel to air dry after disinfection.
 - Store the nebulizer in a sealed plastic bag.

- Step 1: Cleaning the Nebulizer
 - The nebulizer must be cleaned after each use in order to prevent infections from contaminated equipment.
 - The nebulizer must be cleaned well to remove all organic and inorganic debris before disinfection.
 - Take the nebulizer pieces apart.
 - Wash all the pieces in mild dish soap and warm water. Do not wash the supply tubing or mask.
 - Proceed to the disinfection step.

- Step 2: Disinfecting the Nebulizer
 - The cleaned nebulizer can now be disinfected by one of two methods.

- The Heat Method:

- Stovetop: place in a pot of boiling water for 5 minutes (nebulizer should be completely immersed) **or**
- Microwave: place in a microwave-safe container submerged in water and microwave for 5 minutes (nebulizer should be completely immersed) **or**
- Dishwasher: place on the top tray keep temperature $> 158^{\circ}$ F for 30 minutes **or**
- Electric steamer (baby bottle sterilizer)

The Cold Method:

- Soaking in 70% 90% ethyl or isopropyl alcohol for 5 minutes or
- 3% hydrogen peroxide for 30 minutes

- Step 3: Rinsing and Air Drying
 - If using the COLD Method, rinse the nebulizer in sterile water (not tap)
 - Sterile water can be prepared by boiling tap water and achieving a rolling boil for 5 minutes.
 - Distilled water is not recommended since contamination with B. cepacia complex can occur during the manufacturing process.
 - Once fully rinsed, placed on a clean towel to air dry.

Once the nebulizer has air dried, store it in a clean, sealed, plastic bag for its next scheduled use.

- Compressor Filter Replacement
 - Under normal conditions, the filter on your compressor should be replaced every 500 hours of use (approximately 6 months).
 - Should the filter appear soiled (grey), clogged or wet you should replace it at that point as well.