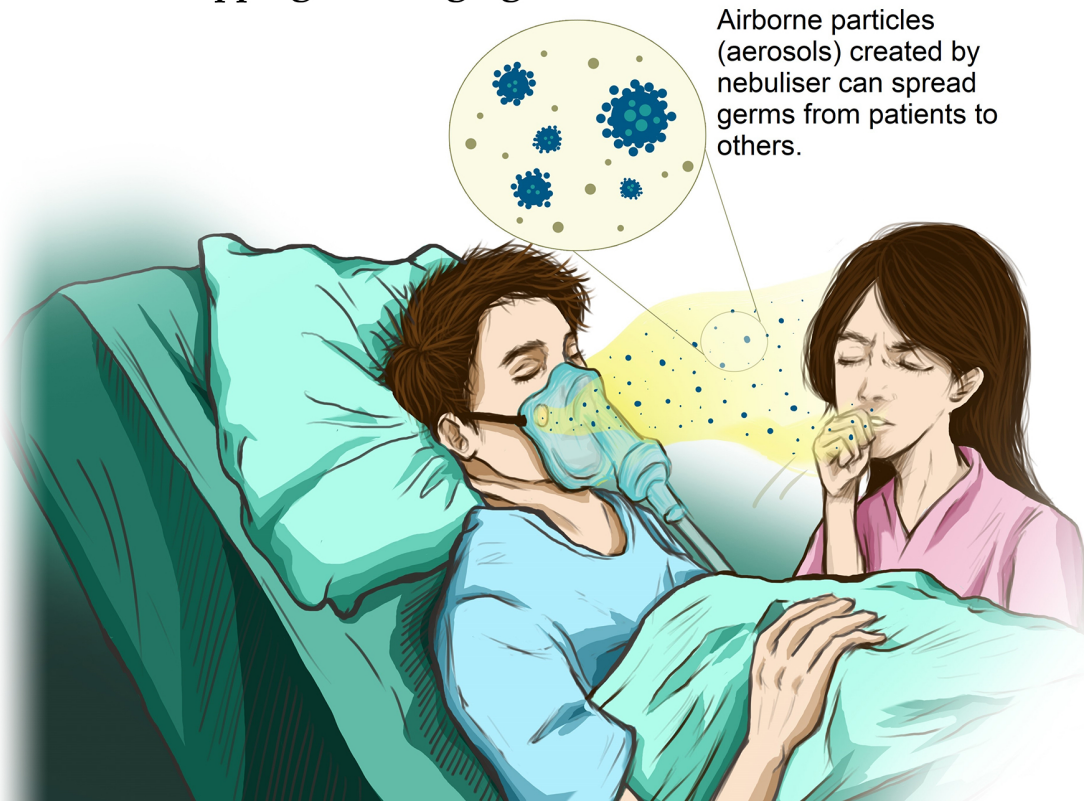


# Can nebulisers increase the risk of infection?



## Take note for patients with respiratory conditions

- If the patient has difficulty using an inhaler, explore the use of a spacer first before using a nebuliser
- Nebuliser use in patients with nose or chest infections can aerosolise their germs.
- Aerosol particles can remain airborne and spread infection.
- Aerosol particles can cause both patients and bystanders to cough, driving spread of infection.
- Nebulisers are usually reserved for when:
  - The patient is unable to use an inhaler and spacer (Examples: Dementia, Parkinson's disease or severe arthritis of the hand)
  - History of poor response to inhalers and spacers
- If you have doubts about your nebuliser treatment, please consult your healthcare provider before stopping or changing it.



Source: <https://www.cmaj.ca/content/re-transmission-corona-virus-nebulizer-serious-underappreciated-risk>

Created by the PSS ILTC Pharmacists workgroup

