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## CLAIMS

1. An inhaler for delivery of a medicament by inhalation, the inhaler comprising:  
a drive mechanism comprising a canister drive for receiving a canister of  
5 medicament, a biasing means, and a trigger mechanism;  
wherein:  
the trigger mechanism comprises:  
a latch having:  
a locked position in which it contacts the canister drive to prevent linear  
10 movement of the canister drive and holds the biasing means in a loaded  
configuration; and  
an unlocked position in which the latch is disengaged from the canister  
drive and releases the biasing means from the loaded configuration to drive  
the canister drive from a rest position to an actuated position; and  
15 a blocker having:  
a blocking position in which it contacts the latch to block movement  
thereof from the locked position to the unlocked position; and  
a rotated position in which the blocker is disengaged from the latch and  
allows movement of the latch from the locked position to the unlocked  
20 position; and  
the blocker is rotatable in response to a force applied to the blocker.
2. The inhaler of claim 1, wherein the blocker comprises a flap, and the flap is rotatable  
in response to a pressure drop within the inhaler and/or wherein the inhaler further  
25 comprises a button for moving the blocker from the blocking position to the rotated  
position.
3. The inhaler of claim 2, further comprising an outer housing for encasing the drive  
mechanism, wherein the button comprises a deflectable portion of the outer  
30 housing, preferably formed by co-moulding a more deformable material with a more  
rigid material forming the remainder of the outer housing.
4. The inhaler of any preceding claim, wherein the inhaler further comprises a blocker

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spring for biasing the blocker into the blocking position.

- 5 5. The inhaler of any preceding claim, further comprising a chassis for at least partially receiving at least one or more of the canister drive, the biasing means, the latch and the blocker.
- 10 6. The inhaler of claim 5, when dependent on claim 4, wherein the blocker spring is integrally formed with the chassis, preferably comprising an elongate protrusion with one end affixed to the chassis and the other end free from the chassis to enable flexing of the free end of the blocker spring, the free end configured for abutting a portion of the blocker.
- 15 7. The inhaler of any preceding claim, wherein the latch is rotatable between the locked position and the unlocked position and further comprises a shelf configured for abutment with a ledge of the canister drive, the ledge protruding from the canister drive and biased to rest on the shelf under the load of the biasing means when the latch is in the locked position and further wherein rotation of the latch to the unlocked position tilts the shelf and the ledge disengages from the shelf to release the canister drive.
- 20 8. The inhaler of any preceding claim, further comprising at least one alignment guide for controlling the positioning of a canister received in the canister drive.
- 25 9. The inhaler of claim 8, wherein the at least one alignment guide comprises an integrally formed portion of the canister drive.
- 30 10. The inhaler of claim 8 or 9, wherein the alignment guide(s) at least partially encircle a canister received in the canister drive, preferably having a close fit with the canister to guide or support the canister within the canister drive.
11. The inhaler of claim 10, comprising a plurality of alignment guides, each guide at least partially encircling a portion of a canister received in the canister drive, the alignment guides substantially forming at least a partial circumferential ring around

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the canister.

12. The inhaler of any preceding claim, further comprising a resetting mechanism for resetting the drive mechanism, the resetting mechanism configured for moving the canister drive back to the rest position to reload the biasing means and to reset the trigger mechanism to the locked position.

13. The inhaler of claim 12, wherein the resetting mechanism comprises a rotatable cover configured to drive the canister drive back to the rest position under rotation of the cover, wherein movement of the canister drive towards the rest position brings a, or the, ledge of the canister drive into engagement with a resetting protrusion on the latch to move the latch back into the locked position.

14. The inhaler of any preceding claim, further comprising a return mechanism for returning a canister received in the canister drive from a fired position to a ready-to-fire position, the return mechanism comprising a damping system, the damping system configured to enable the canister to automatically return from the fired position to the ready-to-fire position within a predetermined time period measured from the release of the biasing means from the loaded configuration.

15. The inhaler of any preceding claim, further comprising a counting mechanism for counting the number of times the canister drive moves from the actuated position to the rest position.

16. The inhaler of claim 15, wherein the counting mechanism comprises a pusher for driving the counting mechanism, the pusher engaged by a complementary feature of the canister drive, wherein movement of the canister drive from the rest position to the actuated position moves the complementary feature and pushes the pusher to count a completed actuation of the inhaler.

17. A method of dispensing medicament from an inhaler, the inhaler comprising a drive mechanism comprising a canister drive for receiving a canister of medicament, a biasing means, and a trigger mechanism, the method comprising:

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holding the biasing means in a loaded configuration by a latch of the trigger mechanism wherein in a locked position the latch contacts the canister drive to prevent linear movement of the canister drive and holds the biasing means; and

5       disengaging the latch from the canister drive in an unlocked position of the latch to release the biasing means from the loaded configuration to drive the canister drive from a rest position to an actuated position;

10       wherein the trigger mechanism further comprises a blocker and the step of disengaging the latch from the canister drive comprises rotating the blocker in response to a force applied to the blocker from a blocking position in which it contacts the latch to block movement thereof from the locked position to the unlocked position to a rotated position in which the blocker is disengaged from the latch and allows movement of the latch from the locked position to the unlocked position.

15       18. The method of claim 17, wherein the blocker comprises a flap, and the method comprises rotating the flap in response to a pressure drop within the inhaler and/or wherein the inhaler further comprises a button and the method comprises pushing the button to move the blocker from the blocking position to the rotated position.

20       19. The method of claim 18, further comprising deflecting a deflectable portion of an outer housing of the inhaler that is preferably formed by co-moulding a more deformable material with a more rigid material forming the remainder of the outer housing.

25       20. The method of any of claims 17 to 19, further comprising biasing the blocker into the blocking position with a blocker spring.

30       21. The method of any of claims 17 to 20, further comprising rotating the latch between the locked position and the unlocked position, and wherein the latch comprises a shelf configured for abutment with a ledge of the canister drive, the ledge protruding from the canister drive and biased to rest on the shelf under the load of the biasing means when the latch is in the locked position, wherein rotating the latch to the unlocked position tilts the shelf and the ledge disengages from the shelf to release

the canister drive.

22. The method of any preceding claim, further comprising controlling the positioning of a canister received in the canister drive with at least one alignment guide.

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23. The method of claim 22, wherein the at least one alignment guide comprises an integrally formed portion of the canister drive, preferably wherein one or more alignment guide(s) at least partially encircle a canister received in the canister drive, preferably having a close fit with the canister to guide or support the canister within the canister drive.

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24. The method of claim 21 or 22, wherein the inhaler comprises a plurality of alignment guides, each guide at least partially encircling a portion of a canister received in the canister drive, the alignment guides substantially forming at least a partial circumferential ring around the canister.

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25. The method of any of claims 17 to 24, further comprising counting the number of times the canister drive moves from the rest position to the actuated position by a counting mechanism that preferably comprises a pusher for driving the counting mechanism, the pusher engaged by a complementary feature of the canister drive, wherein movement of the canister drive from the rest position to the actuated position moves the complementary feature and pushes the pusher to count a completed actuation of the inhaler.

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