



A



B

FIGURE 17.6 A: A handheld manual nebulizing device. B: An electronic nebulizing device. (Courtesy of DeVilbiss Co.)

The pharmacist should advise the patient on the proper technique to use the nebulizer and provide additional instructions, such as not to exceed physician's instructions and to use the smallest amount of product necessary to afford relief. The pharmacist may also advise on how to cope with any dryness of the mouth and should emphasize the need to clean the nebulizer after use and explain how to do it.

The common household vaporizer, like the one depicted in Figure 17.7, produces a fine mist of steam that may be used to humidify a room. When a volatile medication is added to the water in the chamber or to a medication cup, the medication volatilizes and is also inhaled by the patient. Humidifiers, as shown in Figure 17.8, are used to provide a cool mist to the air in a room. Moisture in the air is important to



FIGURE 17.7 A commercial vaporizer. (Photo provided by Kaz, Inc. Vicks is a registered trademark of The Procter & Gamble Co. Manufactured by Kaz, Inc under license from The Procter & Gamble Company, Cincinnati, OH, USA.)

prevent mucous membranes of the nose and throat from becoming dry and irritated. Vaporizers and humidifiers are commonly used in the adjunctive treatment of colds, coughs, and chest congestion.

The pharmacist can help a patient select a vaporizer or humidifier according to personal



Figure 17.8 A commercial humidifier. (Photo provided by Kaz, Inc, maker of Honeywell Portable Humidifiers. The Honeywell trademark is used by Kaz, Inc under license from Honeywell Intellectual Properties, Inc.)