

AUTHORIZED BY: CPC Quality of Care Committee
ISSUE DATE: June 2002
CATEGORY: ACP/PCP Medications
TITLE: **Salbutamol**

REVISION DATE: Sept 2018
PAGE: 1 of 2

-
- Other Names:**
- Ventolin, Albuterol
- Classifications:**
- Bronchodilator
- Pharmacodynamics:**
- Relaxes smooth muscle and airway epithelial cells
 - Produces bronchodilation through stimulation of B-adrenergic receptors in bronchial smooth muscles thereby causing relaxation of muscle fibers
- Onset:**
- 5 – 15 min
- Peak:**
- 60 – 90 min
- Duration:**
- 3 – 6 hrs
- Indications:**
- Patients complaining of shortness of breath with evidence of bronchoconstriction or wheezing
- Contraindications:**
- Hypersensitivity to the medication
 - Tachydysrhythmias
- Precautions:**
- Coronary insufficiency
- Adverse Reactions:**
- Fine muscle tremor
 - Heart rate increase
 - Palpitations
 - Sweating, headache, dizziness, flushing, or nausea
 - Hyperglycemia
 - Hypokalemia
- Drug Interactions:**
- None significant
- Special Considerations:**
- Beware of the silent chest as severe bronchospasm may present with absent air entry and no evidence of wheezing. If this occurs and the patient requires assisted ventilations, consider IM Epinephrine.
 - Bag-valve masks (BVM) equipped with a metered-dose inhaler (MDI) port can be considered for use with patients requiring assisted ventilations
- Preparations:**
- 2.5 mg/2.5 ml vials
 - 5.0 mg/2.5 ml vials
 - 50 mg/10 ml multi-dose vial
 - 100ug/dose in 140 metered doses MDI
- References:**
- Ontario Provincial ALS Patient Care Standards, Version 4.5
 - Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties 2013

NOTE: *The information contained herein does not supersede or negate the MoHLTC Provincial Medical Directives and should only serve as general information about the medication itself. For medication dosages, please refer to the current version of the Ontario Provincial ALS Patient Care Standards.*