

Medications for Asthma and COPD - Health Care Provider Reference

Category	Trade Name(Generic)	Asthma	COPD	What it Does	Side Effects ⁺	Comments
Short Acting Beta Agonist (SABA)	Apo-Salvent Salbutamol Bricanyl ®(terbutaline) Ventolin ® (salbutamol) Airomir ®	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rapidly relaxes muscles in the airways works within minutes when needed used before activity to prevent attacks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> tremor fast heart rate nervousness headache weakness/ dizziness sweating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use for sudden shortness of breath use 2 puffs as needed may have to use regularly during flare-ups (Q4H or PRN) use a spacer with all Metered Dose Inhalers (MDIs)
Inhaled Corticosteroid (ICS)	Flovent ®(fluticasone propionate)	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> regular use decreases inflammation of the airways long-term improvement – works over several days CTS guidelines suggests for use in COPD as part of triple therapy for moderate/severe COPD experiencing exacerbations ≥ 1 per year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> hoarse voice sore throat oral thrush 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rinse, gargle, spit, after each use Alvesco® can be used OD use a spacer with all MDIs carries a slight increased risk of pneumonia in COPD
	Pulmicort ® (budesonide)	X	X			
	Qvar ®(beclomethasone dipropionate)	X	X			
	Alvesco ® (ciclesonide)	X	X			
	Asmanex ® (mometasone)	X				
Inhaled Corticosteroid + Long Acting Beta Agonist (ICS + LABA)	Advair ® (Flovent® + Serevent®)	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> decreases inflammation of the airways <i>and</i> relaxes muscles in the airways when taken regularly helps prevent flares of COPD for moderate/severe disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> hoarse voice sore throat oral thrush headache tremor fast heart rate muscle cramps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rinse, gargle, spit, after each use use a spacer with all MDIs Symbicort® may be prescribed as reliever (SMART therapy – asthma. Max. 8 puffs/day) Breo® lasts 24 hrs (OD) carries a slight increased risk of pneumonia in COPD CTS guidelines indicate use for mod/severe COPD and ≥1 exacerbation per year* not indicated for mild COPD/Not a First Line Therapy*
	Symbicort ®(Pulmicort®+Oxeze®)	X	X			
	Zenhale ®(Mometasone+Oxeze®)	X				
	Breo ® (fluticasone furoate+vilanterol)	X	X			
Long Acting Beta Agonist (LABA)	Serevent ® (salmeterol) Oxeze ® (formoterol) Onbrez ® (indacaterol maleate)		X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relaxes muscles in the airways varied onset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> headache tremor fast heart rate muscle cramps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> used as add on therapy <u>with</u> inhaled steroids in asthma Oxeze® may be prescribed as reliever for COPD only Onbrez® lasts 24 hrs (OD)
Short Acting Muscarinic Antagonist (SAMA)	Atrovent ® (ipratropium bromide) Combivent ® (ipratropium bromide + salbutamol)		X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relaxes muscles in the airways takes about 30 minutes to work lasts 6 hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bad taste or dry mouth tremor (hands shake) headache blurred vision stuffy nose trouble urinating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rinse with water if bothered by dry throat or bad taste i do not get in eyes used in the ER for asthma pathway do not use if taking LAMA or dual bronchodialator use a spacer with all MDIs

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Long Acting Muscarinic Antagonist (LAMA)	Tudorza [®] (aclidinium bromide)		X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relaxes muscles in the airways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> dry mouth constipation trouble urinating headache 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> do not get in eyes If trouble urinating, stop medication and see Doctor Tudorza[®] taken Q12H Spiriva Respimat dosing is 2 inhalations OD
	Seebri [®] (glycopyrronium bromide)		X			
	Spriva [®] (tiotropium bromide)	X	X			
Dual Bronchodilator (LAMA/LABA)	Anoro [®] (umeclidinium+vilanterol) Duaklir [®] (formoteril+aclidinium) Inspiro [®] (tiotropium+olodaterol) Ultibro [®] (indacaterol+glycopyrronium)		X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relaxes muscles in the airways lasts 24 hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> dry mouth/throat constipation trouble urinating headache tremor fast heart rate muscle cramps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> once daily use Duaklir taken Q12H do not get in eyes
Oral Corticosteroid	Prednisone	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> decreases inflammation of the airways works within hours usually taken for 5-10 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>short term</i>: increased appetite, weight gain, mood change, easy bruising <i>long term</i>: increase blood pressure, round face, osteoporosis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> used short term for severe worsening of breathing take once a day with morning meals if taken longer than 2 weeks, doses are usually “tapered” (decrease the amount slowly rather than stop suddenly).
Leukotriene Antagonist	Singulair [®] (montelukast)	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> prevents inflammation of the airways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> headache stomach upset skin rash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use once per day, in evening
Phosphodiesterase 4 Inhibitor (PDE-4 Inhibitor)	Daxas [®] (roflumilast)		X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> add on therapy to bronchodilator treatment for mod/severe COPD associated with Chronic Bronchitis (cough and sputum) and with frequent exacerbations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> diarrhea weight decrease nausea headache abdominal pain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> once daily oral capsule <u>should not</u> be used on its own, or as a rescue medication not recommended for patients with history of depression with suicidal behaviours patient’s weight should be monitored regularly not recommended with mod/severe liver impairment
Nasal Corticosteroid	Avamys [®] (fluticasone furoate) Flonase [®] (fluticasone propionate) Nasacort [®] (triamcinolone) Nasonex [®] (mometasone) Rhinocort [®] (budesonide) Omnares [®] (ciclesonide) beclomethasone	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> decreases inflammation in the nose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> nasal irritation bleeding/ crusting or dry nose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use regularly when allergies are bothersome may use as needed throughout the year

This material is designed for information purposes only. It should not be used in place of medical advice, instruction and/or treatment.

⁺Included are most common side effects, may not be complete list. **Information changes frequently – Refer to Canadian Thoracic Society (CTS)** <http://www.respiratoryguidelines.ca/>