

Asthma Treatment and Prevention

Symbicort

Asthma treatments

There are four main types of inhaled asthma treatments (asthma inhalers).



Relievers

Relievers (usually blue) give rapid relief from asthma symptoms by relaxing your airways. Relievers work within 1-3 minutes and last for 3-4 hours.



Preventers

Preventers (usually brown or orange) reduce inflammation inside your airways to help prevent asthma symptoms from occurring in the first place.



Symptom Controllers

Symptom Controllers (usually green) also relax the airways but they last for longer (around 12 hours). They should always be taken with a Preventer.



Combination Inhalers

Combination inhalers (red or purple) contain a Preventer AND a Symptom Controller in one inhaler. They do two jobs by helping prevent asthma symptoms AND by relaxing the airways.

Symbicort SMART is a combination treatment. With Symbicort SMART you only need one inhaler because it combines two medicines - one that helps prevent asthma AND one that gives rapid relief when you need it, so you don't need a separate blue inhaler any more.

Symbicort SMART is the only asthma medication that can be used as both a preventer and a reliever.

If you have a question relating to an adverse event or product complaint for an AstraZeneca product, please contact us on +64 9 306 5673 or by email at Regulatory.NZ@astrazeneca.com

Symbicort® Turbuhaler® 100/6 & 200/6

Symbicort Turbuhaler used in Symbicort SMART (Symbicort Maintenance and Reliever Therapy) contains budesonide 100µg or 200µg per dose (preventer) and formoterol 6µg (symptom controller). Symbicort SMART is indicated for the regular treatment of asthma where combination therapy is appropriate. Specific criteria apply for the use and funding of Symbicort. Not all patients are eligible for treatment with Symbicort. Ask your doctor if Symbicort is right for you. Use strictly as directed. Symbicort should not be initiated as emergency treatment for severe exacerbations or for patients with acutely worsening asthma symptoms. Do not use if you are allergic to budesonide or formoterol. Tell your doctor if you have thyroid problems, heart problems, diabetes, problems with potassium levels, pregnancy, breast-feeding. Common side effects include mild irritation in the throat, coughing, hoarseness, thrush (fungal infection in mouth and throat), headache, trembling, fast or irregular heartbeat. Rarely, allergic reactions. Prescription Medicine. If symptoms continue or you experience side effects, see your healthcare professional. Your doctor's fee and a prescription fee will apply.

For full Consumer Medicine Information for Symbicort Turbuhaler see www.medsafe.govt.nz. Symbicort SMART and Turbuhaler are trademarks of AstraZeneca Group. AstraZeneca Limited, P299 Private Bag 92175, Auckland 1142, Telephone (09) 306 5650 Facsimile (09) 306 5651. TAPS NA 5723 APRIL 2012 essence AZ5730.

- * Symbicort Maintenance And Reliever Therapy
- 1. Symbicort Turbuhaler Data Sheet 31 October 2011.
- 2. Jackson et al. J Allergy Clin Immunol 2010;125:1178-1187