

# NEW ZEALAND CONSUMER MEDICINE INFORMATION

## Ipratropium Steri-Neb

### Ipratropium Bromide 250 micrograms/mL nebuliser solution

Please read this leaflet carefully before you start using Ipratropium Steri-Neb.

---

#### What is in this leaflet

---

This leaflet answers some common questions about Ipratropium Steri-Neb. It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you using Ipratropium Steri-Neb, against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

**If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

**Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.**

---

#### What Ipratropium Steri-Neb is used for

---

Ipratropium Steri-Neb is used to make breathing easier for people with chest diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) including chronic bronchitis, emphysema and asthma. This kind of medicine is known as an anticholinergic bronchodilator. It works by relaxing the smooth muscles in the airways of the lungs, which makes breathing easier. This helps to relieve the narrowing and tightness you feel in your lungs. Ipratropium Steri-Neb begins to act quickly after use but may take up to 2 hours to give maximum benefit. *It is designed for use in a nebuliser, which turns the solution into a fine mist which you can breathe in.*

Your doctor may have prescribed Ipratropium Steri-Neb for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why Ipratropium Steri-Neb has been prescribed for you.

There is no evidence that Ipratropium Steri-Neb is addictive.

Ipratropium Steri-Neb is only available with a doctor's prescription.

---

#### Before you use Ipratropium Steri-Neb

---

##### ***Do not use Ipratropium Steri-Neb if:***

- you have an allergy to ipratropium bromide or atropine or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
- the solution is cloudy
- the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.
- the expiry date (USE BY) printed on the pack has passed.  
If you take this medicine after the expiry date has passed, it may not work as well.

##### ***Before using Ipratropium Steri-Neb***

##### **Tell your doctor or your pharmacist if:**

1. you have any allergies to any other medicines or any other substances, such as foods, preservatives or dyes.
2. you suffer from an eye condition called glaucoma
3. you suffer from cystic fibrosis

4. you suffer from an enlarged prostate
5. you have problems passing urine, or have constipation
6. you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding or planning to breastfeed. Your doctor will tell you if you should use your nebuliser solution. It is important that asthma is managed well during pregnancy and you should not stop using your nebuliser solution without asking your doctor.
7. you are taking other medicines, including any that you buy from a pharmacy, supermarket, or health food shop.

**If you are not sure whether you should start using Ipratropium Steri-Neb, contact your doctor or pharmacist.**

---

## How to use Ipratropium Steri-Neb

---

You will find detailed instructions on how to use Ipratropium Steri-Neb in each pack. Read these instructions carefully. You must use Ipratropium Steri-Neb in a power-operated nebuliser. The nebuliser turns the solution into a fine mist which you can breathe in. **Do not swallow the solution or use it in injections. Do not get the solution or mist in your eyes.** Read the nebuliser manufacturer's instructions and make sure you know how to use the nebuliser before you take Ipratropium Steri-Neb.

### ***When to use your Ipratropium Steri-Neb, and how much to use***

Follow your doctor's instructions on when to use your Ipratropium Steri-Neb, and on how much to take. The pharmacy label on your Ipratropium Steri-Neb will usually tell you when to take it and how much to use. If you are not sure, ask your doctor or pharmacist. **Do not dilute the solution or mix it with other medicines, unless your doctor tells you to.**

Each Steri-Neb contains the solution of Ipratropium Bromide. Ipratropium Steri-Neb will contain either 250 micrograms in 1mL or 500 micrograms in 2mL, depending on the dose you doctor has prescribed for you.

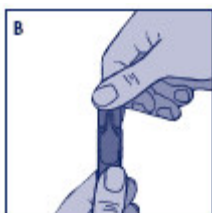
**If you are not sure how or when to use your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

### **Using Ipratropium Steri-Neb:**

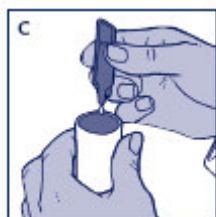
1. Prepare your nebuliser for use according to the manufacturer's instructions.
2. Remove a Steri-Neb from the labelled strip by twisting and pulling (diagram A).



3. Hold the Steri-Neb upright and twist off the cap (diagram B).



4. Squeeze the contents into the reservoir of your nebuliser (diagram C).



5. Following the manufacturer's instructions, use your nebuliser.
6. After you have used your nebuliser, throw away any solution that is left in the nebuliser.
7. Clean your nebuliser thoroughly. Follow the manufacturer's instructions; it is important that your nebuliser is kept clean.

### ***In case you take too much (an overdose)***

If you or someone else has used too much Ipratropium Steri-Neb, immediately telephone your doctor or the National Poisons Information Centre ((0800 POISON or 0800 764 766), or go to your nearest Accident & Emergency centre. Do this even if there are no signs of poisoning or discomfort.

### ***In case you forget to use Ipratropium Steri-Neb***

If you forget to use your Ipratropium Steri-Neb, do not worry. Take your recommended dose when you remember, but if it is near to the time of the next dose, wait until this is due. Do not take a double dose. Never use more Ipratropium Steri-Neb than your doctor has told you to.

---

## **What if your Ipratropium Steri-Neb doesn't help your breathing?**

**If your breathing suddenly gets worse after using Ipratropium Steri-Neb, CONTACT YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY.**

As with other inhaled solutions, there is the potential with Ipratropium Steri-Neb that you may possibly experience "paradoxical bronchospasm" (narrowing of the airways in your lungs or tightening of the chest).

**If this occurs, stop immediately and contact your doctor.**

If you find that the usual dose of Ipratropium Steri-Neb is not giving as much relief as before, or that you are needing to use it more often, contact your doctor or pharmacist so that your condition can be checked. This is important to ensure your breathing problem is controlled properly.

---

## **While you are using Ipratropium Steri-Neb**

### ***Things you must do***

1. Clean your nebuliser thoroughly after use.
2. If you have an Asthma Action Plan that you have agreed with your doctor, follow it closely at all times.
3. Keep using Ipratropium Steri-Neb for as long as your doctor or pharmacist tells you.
4. Visit your doctor regularly to check on your asthma condition, and that you are using your Ipratropium Steri-Neb properly.
5. Tell any other doctors, dentists, and pharmacists who are treating you that you are using Ipratropium Steri-Neb.

6. If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your doctor or pharmacist that you are using Ipratropium Steri-Neb.
7. If you become pregnant while using Ipratropium Steri-Neb, tell your doctor or pharmacist.

### ***Things you must not do***

1. Your doctor has prescribed Ipratropium Steri-Neb only for you. Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.
2. Do not use Ipratropium Steri-Neb to treat any other complaints unless your doctor or pharmacist tells you to.
3. Do not stop using Ipratropium Steri-Neb or lower the amount you are using, without checking with your doctor or pharmacist.
4. Do not inject or swallow Ipratropium Steri-Neb.

---

## **Side effects**

---

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are using Ipratropium Steri-Neb.**

Like most medicines, Ipratropium Steri-Neb may cause some side effects. If they do occur, most will be minor and short-lived. However, some may be serious and need medical attention. Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

**If you get any of the following side effects and they worry you or last for more than a few days, tell your doctor or pharmacist:**

- Headache
- Nausea, and vomiting
- Dry mouth.
- Difficulty in passing urine
- Constipation, or diarrhoea.
- Eye pain or discomfort, blurred vision or other sight disturbances, red eyes

If you have taken a slightly larger dose than usual, you may notice a faster heart beat (palpitations). This usually wears off in a few hours.

Very rarely, this medicine may cause allergic reactions including skin rashes or redness, or swelling of the face or throat. **If you have an allergic (hypersensitivity) reaction, you should stop using your Ipratropium Steri-Neb and TELL YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY.** Symptoms include:

- Swelling of the face, lips, mouth or throat
- Severe skin rash or itching
- Difficulty breathing or swallowing
- Feeling faint or dizzy

Some people may get other side effects while using Ipratropium Steri-Neb Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

**If your breathing suddenly gets worse after using Ipratropium Steri-Neb, CONTACT YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY.**

---

## After using Ipratropium Steri-Neb

---

### **Storage**

Keep your Ipratropium Steri-Neb in a place where children cannot reach it.  
Keep your Ipratropium Steri-Neb in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25 °C.  
Keep it away from frost, and do not store it in a refrigerator or freezer. Keep it away from direct sunlight and heat.

### **Disposal**

If your doctor tells you to stop using Ipratropium Steri-Neb, or it has passed its expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any Ipratropium Steri-Neb that are left over.

---

## Product Description

---

### **What It Looks Like**

Ipratropium Steri-Neb is a clear liquid filled into a single-dose plastic ampoule (Steri-Neb).

### **Ingredients**

The medicine in your Ipratropium Steri-Neb is Ipratropium bromide. Each Steri-Neb contains 250 micrograms Ipratropium bromide per mL of solution. The solution also contains Sodium chloride, dilute Hydrochloric Acid, and Purified water.

Ipratropium Steri-Neb does not contain sucrose, lactose, gluten or tartrazine.

Ipratropium Steri-Neb 250 micrograms/ 1mL contains 250 micrograms Ipratropium bromide in 1 mL of solution.

Ipratropium Steri-Neb 500 micrograms/ 2mL contains 500 micrograms Ipratropium bromide in 2 mL of solution.

There are 20 Steri-Neb in each pack.

---

## Further Information

---

### **Your Ipratropium Steri-Neb are supplied by:**

Air Flow Products Ltd  
Level 3, The Thorndon Centre  
191 Thorndon Quay  
PO Box 1485  
WELLINGTON 6140  
Telephone: 0800 AIRFLOW (0800 247 359)  
Fax: 0800 323 270  
[www.air-flow.co.nz](http://www.air-flow.co.nz)

### **Sponsor:**

Norton Healthcare Limited (New Zealand Branch Office)  
[An Affiliate company of Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd]  
Makino Road  
PO Box 115  
FEILDING 4740

Do not throw this leaflet away. You may need to read it again.

*Asthma and Respiratory Foundation of New Zealand (Inc.):* Air Flow Products Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Asthma and Respiratory Foundation of New Zealand (Inc.). Funds raised will support the work of the Asthma and Respiratory Foundation of New Zealand (Inc.).