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30 May 2025

Dear Healthcare Professional,

Ventolin (salbutamol (as sulfate) aerosol inhaler, metered dose TT50-1525/12) – reinforcing information regarding number of prescribed doses available

This letter is to reinforce information about Ventolin (salbutamol (as sulfate)) pressurised metered dose inhaler (pMDI) in relation to the number of prescribed doses available as per the label.

The inhaler contains enough salbutamol for 200 actuations (puffs) only. After 200 actuations (puffs), the inhaler can continue to spray but without the prescribed dose of salbutamol.¹

Key Messages

- Methods such as shaking, weighing or submerging inhalers are not accurate for determining that an inhaler is empty of the prescribed dose of salbutamol.¹
- Accordingly, maintaining a record of the number of actuations (puffs) administered to the patient should be considered towards avoiding inadvertent use of an empty inhaler.¹
- Patients keeping a back-up inhaler could be considered. If the patient has more than one inhaler, it is recommended to keep track of each inhaler separately.¹

Action required by Healthcare Professionals

Healthcare Professionals should reinforce this information with their patients.

Revised Labelling

The Ventolin Inhaler New Zealand Data Sheet (DS), Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) and Instructions for Use (IFU) Leaflet have been updated accordingly with additional information to further support appropriate patient use to mitigate the potential risk of inadvertent use of an empty salbutamol pMDI.

These updates to the labelling for Ventolin Inhaler were approved on 16 April 2025.

The revised DS and CMI are available on the Medsafe website.

Further Information

Healthcare professionals are encouraged to report suspected adverse reactions to medicines and vaccines to Medsafe. For more information, see <https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/safety/report-a-problem.asp>.

To report an adverse event or possible side effect to GSK, please use our online adverse event reporting form found at <https://gsk.public.reportum.com/> or call 0800 808 500.

Contact for Further Information or Questions

For all questions, please contact GSK Medical Information on 0800 808 500.

Kind regards,



Rhian Thomas

Medical Operations Manager

GSK New Zealand

References: 1. Ventolin Inhaler Data Sheet, GSK New Zealand, available at www.medsafe.govt.nz. [Accessed May 2025].

Ventolin (salbutamol (as sulfate)); available as an alcohol-free and CFC-free metered dose inhaler, 100 mcg per actuation) is a **Prescription Medicine**. **Ventolin** is a short acting bronchodilator (four hours), selective beta-2 adrenoreceptor agonist for the treatment of bronchodilation in patients with reversible airways obstruction due to asthma, chronic bronchitis and emphysema. **Ventolin (as inhaler) is a partially funded medicine – a prescription charge will apply.** **Dosage: Adults:** Acute bronchospasm – 1 or 2 puffs; Prevention of allergen or exercise-induced bronchospasm – 2 puffs before challenge; Chronic therapy – up to 2 puffs four times daily. **Paediatrics:** Acute bronchospasm – 1 puff, increased to 2 puffs if required; Prevention of allergen or exercise-induced bronchospasm – 1 puff before challenge, increased to 2 puffs if required; Chronic therapy – up to 2 puffs four times daily. **Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to this medicine or to any of its components. **Warnings and Precautions:** Increasing use to control symptoms indicates deterioration of asthma control. Under these conditions, the patient's therapy plan should be reassessed. Salbutamol should be administered cautiously to patients with thyrotoxicosis. Potentially serious hypokalaemia may result, mainly from parenteral and nebulised administration. Particular caution advised in acute severe asthma, as effect may be potentiated by concomitant treatment with xanthine derivatives, steroids, diuretics and by hypoxia. Paradoxical bronchospasm may occur. Avoid prescribing **Ventolin** with beta-blockers. **Pregnancy:** Administration of medicines during pregnancy should only be considered if the expected benefit to the mother is greater than any possible risk to the foetus. **Common Side Effects:** headache, tremor, tachycardia. **Before prescribing Ventolin, please review the data sheet for information on dosage, contraindications, precautions, interactions and adverse effects** available at www.medsafe.govt.nz. Trademarks are owned by or licensed to the GSK group of companies. ©2025 GSK group companies or its licensor. Marketed by GlaxoSmithKline NZ Ltd, Auckland. **Adverse events involving GlaxoSmithKline products should be reported to GSK Medical Information on 0800 808 500.** TAPS DA2501VC-NP-NZ-SLB-LTR-250001 Date of Approval: 05 2025 Date of Expiry: 05 2027