

COPD Medicines

August 2005

Long-term Control Medicines			
Type of Medicine	Generic Name	Brand Name	Possible Side Effects to report to your doctor (<i>not a complete list</i>)
Long-Acting Beta2-Agonists: Inhaled and Oral Bronchodilators used daily to keep your symptoms controlled	Salmeterol	Serevent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headaches • Shaking (tremors) • Higher blood pressure • Faster heart beat • Stomach upset, nausea • Trouble sleeping • Muscle cramps
	Formoterol	Foradil	
Note: Do not take them for an asthma episode as a rescue medicine.			
Combined Inhaled Medicines Bronchodilators that combine a controller inhaler and a quick relief inhaler, or combine 2 controller inhalers into one.	Albuterol + Ipratropium	Combivent	Refer to side effects of each individual medicine
	Albuterol + Ipratropium	DuoNeb	
	Salmeterol + Fluticasone	Advair	
Note: Do not increase the dosage or frequency without consulting your health care provider.			
Long-Acting or Maintenance Methylxanthine: Oral Bronchodilator that relaxes the muscles around the airways	Theophylline	Slo-Bid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stomach upset • Nausea • Faster heartbeat • Trouble sleeping
		Theochron	
		Theo-Dur	
		Theo-24	
		Uniphyl	
Corticosteroids: Inhaled Potent anti-inflammatory that may help to reduce the swelling and inflammation	Beclomethesone	Becolvent QVAR Vanceril	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoarseness • Thrush, yeast infection in the mouth
	Budesonide	Pulmicort Turbuhaler	
	Flunisolide	Aerobid	
	Fluticasone	Flovent	
	Triamcinolone	Azmacort	
Note: Do not use steroids for fast relief or shortness of breath.			

Anticholinergics: inhaled	Ipratropium Short-Acting	Atrovent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry mouth • Bitter taste
Bronchodilator that relieves the tightening of the airways, or bronchospasm	Tiotropium bromide Long-Acting	Spiriva	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry mouth • Constipation • Faster heartbeat
<p>Note: This is not a rescue medicine. Be sure to talk to your health care provider about a treatment plan. You should not use ipratropium if you have an allergy to soy products or peanuts. Do not allow the spray to get into your eyes. It may cause blurred vision or worsen glaucoma.</p>			

Quick Relief Medicines			
Type of Medicine	Generic Name	Brand Name	Possible Side Effects to report to your doctor (<i>not a complete list</i>)
<p>Short-Acting Beta2-Agonists: Inhaled or Oral</p> <p>Bronchodilators relax and open your airways to increase the flow of air</p>	Albuterol	ProAir HFA Proventil Proventil HFA Ventolin Volmax VoSpire ER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faster heartbeat • Headache • Shaking (tremors)
	Metaproterenol	Alupent	
	Pirbuterol	Maxair	
	Terbutaline	Brethaire Brethine	
	Bitolterol	Tornalate	
	Levalbuterol	Xopenex	
<p>Note: Keep your quick relief inhaler, if prescribed, with you at all times.</p>			

Additional Medicines			
Type of Medicine	Generic Name	Brand Name	Possible Side Effects to report to your doctor (<i>not a complete list</i>)
<p>Corticosteroids: Oral</p> <p>Most potent anti-inflammatory</p>	Prednisone	Many brand names	<p>Short-term use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased appetite • Retaining fluids • Weight gain • Nausea or vomiting • Stomach upset or ulcers • Blood sugar changes <p>Long-term use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High blood pressure • Thinning bones

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cataracts • Muscle weakness • Easier bruising • Slower wound healing
Note: Do not stop taking any steroid medicines without talking to your health care provider.			
Expectorants and mucolytics Medicines that may help move secretions out of the lungs and airways	Quaifenesin	Many name brands	Check with your pharmacist or health care provider
	Acetylcysteine	Mucomyst	