# SALBUTAMOL (inhaler and nebules)

*sal-bew-ta-mol*

## What does it do?

*Salbutamol* is used to relieve breathing problems such as asthma. It opens narrowed airways in the lungs making it easier to breathe.

## Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

## How should you use it?

Inhale *salbutamol* as directed by your healthcare professional.

## Can you take other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

## What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects | Recommended action |
|---|---|
| Symptoms of a fast or irregular heartbeat including: fluttering, pounding or pain in your chest, dizziness or fainting | Tell your doctor |
| Shaking, muscle cramps<br>Nervousness | Tell your doctor if troublesome |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

## Other information:

- Some people with asthma may get short of breath after taking certain pain-relieving medicines such as aspirin (e.g. Aspec®), diclofenac (e.g. Voltaren®) or ibuprofen (e.g. Nurofen®). Talk to your healthcare professional.
- If you need to use *salbutamol* several times each week, your doctor may give you a 'preventer' inhaler. Preventers help reduce asthma symptoms and breathing problems.
- Using inhalers can very rarely make breathing worse. Discuss this with your healthcare professional.
- Keep your *salbutamol* handy at all times, so you know where it is when you need it.