



ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

Salbutamol

Scope (Staff): All WNHS Staff

Scope (Area): Obstetrics and Gynaecology

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

Quick Links

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[Monitoring](#)

[Pregnancy and
Breastfeeding](#)

Restrictions

[Formulary: Unrestricted](#)

Medication Class

Beta₂ Agonist

Presentation

Ampoule : 500microg/1mL

Ampoule (Obstetric): 5mg/5mL

Nebule : 5mg/2.5mL

Metered Dose Inhaler : 100microg/dose

Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C

Dose

Symptom relief of asthma and COPD

Route: Inhalation

1-2 inhalations (100-200 micrograms) when required, or 5-15 minutes before exercise. Repeat 3 or 4 times daily as necessary.

Route: Nebulisation

2.5-5mg; repeat 3 or 4 times daily as necessary.

Acute exacerbation of COPD**Route: Inhalation**

4-8 inhalations (400-800 micrograms) every 1-6 hours. Adjust dose according to response.

Route: Nebulisation

2.5-5mg; every 1-6 hours. Adjust dose according to response.

Bronchospasm**Route: Inhalation**

See [Adult Resuscitation Drug Protocols](#)

Tocolysis (second line)**Route: IV infusion**

See [Preterm Labour: Tocolytic therapy](#)

Administration**IV infusion (Obstetric)**

See [Preterm Labour: Tocolytic therapy](#) and [Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook](#)

Inhalation

Shake well before use. Inhale 1-2 puffs via a spacer (if available). Administer ONE puff at a time. Speak to your pharmacist for further details.

Nebulisation

See [Medication Administration](#)

Monitoring

Contractions

Maternal heart rate

Fluid and electrolyte status to avoid overhydration

Consider monitoring ECG during treatment

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Safe to use

2nd Trimester: Safe to use

3rd Trimester: Safe to use

When intravenous salbutamol is used, maternal circulatory adverse effects may occur. Therefore, monitor both mother and fetus for signs of an increased heart rate and a reduction in blood pressure.

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

Breastfeeding

Safe to use

If IV salbutamol is indicated, observe for signs of tremor or agitation in the breastfed infant.

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

Comments

Tocolytic: Do not exceed 48 hours of salbutamol therapy. Only in exceptional circumstances should treatment be continued for > 24 hours

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

[Medication Administration](#)

[Preterm Labour](#)

[Adult Resuscitation Drug Protocols](#)

[Postpartum complications](#)









References

Australian Medicines Handbook. Salbutamol (Obstetrics). In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2021 [cited 2021 Sep 9]. Available from: <https://amhonline.amh.net.au/>

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