

Asthma Medicines Chart

Most drugs have a brand name and a generic name. Both names are listed in this chart. Generic drugs usually work as well as the brand name versions and are less expensive. You may want to talk with your healthcare provider about prescribing generic drugs for you. Your pharmacist can also give you information about specific generic drugs.

Inhaled Corticosteroids

GENERIC NAME	Brand Name	SIDE EFFECTS
Single Medication:		Should Be Reported to Your Doctor
beclomethasone dipropionate	QVAR®	 Creamy white, curd-like patches in the mouth
budesonide	Pulmicort Respules® Pulmicort Flexhaler®	Fast or pounding heartbeatPuffy face
flunisolide	Aerobid [®] Aerospan HFA [®]	Skin rashWheezing
fluticasone propionate	Flovent Diskus® Flovent HFA®	Usually Do Not Require Medical Attention These side effects may go away with treatment.
mometasone furoate	Asmanex Twisthaler®	If they continue, check with your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.
triamcinolone acetonide	Azmacort®	• Cough
Combined Medication:		Nose bleeds Hoarseness
fluticasone and salmeterol xinafoate (inhaled steroid plus long-acting beta-2 agonist)	Advair Diskus® Advair HFA®	Thoat irritationHeadacheDry mouth
budesonide and formoterol fumarate (inhaled steroid plus long-acting beta-2 agonist)	Symbicort [®]	Long-term Side Effects Cataracts in adults Slowed growth in children
Note: It is strongly recommended beta-2 agonists should be used in a single combined product or	with inhaled steroids either	.

Oral Corticosteroids (taken by mouth in pill or liquid form)

GENERIC NAME	Brand Name	SIDE EFFECTS
dexamethasone hydrocortisone methylprednisone prednisolone prednisone	(none) Cortef® Medrol® Prelone® Prednisone Intensol®	Should Be Reported to Your Doctor Decreased or blurred vision Increased thirst Fever or sore throat Mood changes Frequent urination Skin rash Menstrual irregularities Muscle cramps
		Usually Do Not Require Medical Attention Increased appetite Slight weight gain Nervousness Restlessness Mild acne Insomnia



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Asthma Medicines Chart

Inhaled Long-Acting Beta-2 Agonists

GENERIC NAME	Brand Name	SIDE EFFECTS
Single Medication: formoterol fumarate salmeterol xinafoate	Foradil Aerolizer® Serevent Diskus®	To Discuss with Your Doctor Increased heart rate Nervousness Headache
Combined Medication: fluticasone propionate and salmeterol xinafoate (inhaled steroid plus long-acting beta-2 agonist)	Advair Diskus®	 Sleeplessness Palpitations Tremor, shaking feeling Nausea and vomiting Hoarseness Coughing
budesonide and formoterol fumarate (inhaled steroid plus long-acting beta-2 agonist)	Symbicort [®]	
Note: It is strongly recommended beta-2 agonists should be used in a single combined product or	with inhaled steroids either	

Oral Beta-2 Agonists

GENERIC NAME	Brand Name	SIDE EFFECTS
albuterol sulfate	VoSpire ER®	To Discuss with Your Doctor Increased heart rate Nervousness Headache Sleeplessness Palpitations Tremor, shaking feeling Nausea and vomiting





Asthma Medicines Chart

Inhaled Short-Acting Beta-2 Agonists

Generic N ame	Brand Name	SIDE EFFECTS
albuterol sulfate	Accuneb [®] Proventil-HFA [®] ProAir HFA [®] Ventolin [®]	To Discuss with Your Doctor Anxiety Racing heart Headache
etharine hydrochloride	Beta-2®	 Insomnia (difficulty sleeping)
proterenol hydrochloride	Isuprel®	 Nervousness and tremors
valbuterol hydrochloride	Xopenex® Xopenex HFA®	 Restlessness
buterol acetate	Maxair Autohaler®	
outaline sulfate	(none)	

Anticholinergics

GENERIC NAME	Brand Name	SIDE EFFECTS
Single Medication: ipratropium bromide	Atrovent [®] Atrovent HFA [®]	To Discuss with Your DoctorDry mouthMay increase wheezing for some people
Combined Medication: ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate	Combivent® Duoneb®	

Leukotriene Modifiers

GENERIC NAME	Brand N ame	SIDE EFFECTS
montelukast sodium	Singulair®	To Discuss with Your Doctor
zafirlukast	Accolate®	• Headaches
zileuton	Zyflo CR®	 Sleep problems Nausea or upset stomach Rapid heartbeat Liver dysfunction (zileuton only) Restlessness Nausea and vomiting Infection Diarrhea



Breathe Well. Live Well ■ Asthma Medicines Chart ■ Module



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Oral Methylxanthines

GENERIC NAME	Brand Name	SIDE EFFECTS
oxytriphylline	Choledyl SA®	To Discuss with Your Doctor
theophylline	Elixophyllin® Theo-24® Theochron® Uniphyl®	 Stomach upset Nervousness Nausea and vomiting Insomnia (difficulty sleeping) Hyperactivity or irritability Rapid or irregular heartbeat Dizziness

Cromolyn and Nedocromil

GENERIC NAME	Brand Name	SIDE EFFECTS
cromolyn sodium	Intal [®]	To Discuss with Your Doctor
nedocromil sodium	Tilade®	 Increased coughing, wheezing, or shortness of breath
		Usually Do Not Require Medical Attention Coughing Headache Nausea Skin rash/itching Sore throat Abdominal pain

Anti-IgE

GENERIC NAME	Brand N ame	SIDE EFFECTS	
omalizumab	Xolair [®]	To Discuss with Your Doctor Injection-site infection Viral infections Upper respiratory infection Sinusitis Headache Sore throat	