

Department of Health & Social Care



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2025/014

Salbutamol (Salamol Easi-Breathe®) 100micrograms/dose breath actuated inhaler CFC free

Tier 2 – medium impact* Date of issue: 06/03/2025 Link: <u>Medicines Supply Tool</u>

Summary

- Salbutamol (Salamol Easi-Breathe[®]) 100micrograms/dose breath actuated inhaler CFC free is out of stock until late March 2025.
- Salbutamol pressurised metered-dose inhalers (pMDIs) are available (Salamol[®] 100micrograms/dose inhaler CFC free and Ventolin Evohaler[®] 100micrograms/dose inhaler CFC free) and can support an uplift in demand.
- Salbutamol (Airomir[®]) 100micrograms/dose inhaler CFC free is currently unavailable, awaiting resupply date.

Actions Required

Where patients have insufficient supplies of salbutamol (Salamol Easi-Breathe® 100micrograms/dose breath actuated inhaler CFC free) to last until the resupply date, prescribers should:

- consider prescribing one month supply of salbutamol pMDI, assessing whether a spacer is required, and ensuring that the patient is not intolerant to any of the excipients, is counselled on how to use the pMDI with/without spacer, and on the dose to be administered; or
- consider in patients aged 12 years and above, whether first line 'Maintenance And Reliever Therapy' (MART) or 'Anti-inflammatory reliever' (AIR) therapy is more appropriate than use of salbutamol.

If the above options are not considered appropriate, advice should be sought from specialists on management options.

Supporting information

Clinical Information

Pressurised MDIs require dexterity and the ability to coordinate actuation with inhalation. In all children and in patients who may struggle with this, a spacer device and counselling on its use should be provided.

<u>NICE asthma guidance</u> on transferring patients with uncontrolled asthma from other treatment pathways recommends that those aged 12 years and above, who are only using a short-acting beta-2-agonist (SABA) should be offered a low-dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS)/ formoterol combination inhaler to be used as needed (as-needed AIR therapy). It recommends changing treatment to low-dose MART for people with asthma that is not controlled on regular low-dose ICS plus SABA as needed.

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link: https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/

Links to further information

<u>SmPC – Salbutamol 100microgram/dose presentations</u> <u>NICE Guidance – Asthma: diagnosis, monitoring and chronic asthma management (BTS, NICE, SIGN)</u> <u>Asthma and Lung UK – Spacer advice</u> <u>BNF: Inhaler devices</u> <u>BNF: Chronic asthma</u>

Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact <u>DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.</u>