

## FORMULARY

### Albuterol (Proventil, Ventolin)

<b>Class of Drug</b>	Bronchodilator, adrenergic beta 2 agonist.
<b>Mechanism of Action</b>	Albuterol is a bronchodilator that exerts effects primarily on the Beta-2-adrenergic receptors on bronchial smooth muscle causing relaxation and facilitating optimal airflow. It affects all airways, from the trachea to the terminal bronchioles. Albuterol can cause cardiovascular effects, as there is a small population of Beta-2 receptors in the cardiac muscle including tachycardia, elevated blood pressure, and EKG changes.
<b>Indications</b>	Acute bronchospasm.
<b>Contraindications</b>	Sensitivity to albuterol or any of its components in the above forms.
<b>Adverse Effects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Common adverse effects reported are palpitations, chest pain, rapid heart rate, and tremors or nervousness.</li></ul> DRUG INTERACTIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>MAOI/TCA's: Use caution within 2 weeks of taking MAOI's or TCA's as cardiovascular effects may be enhanced.</li><li>DIURETICS: May further affect EKG changes and hypokalemia from potassium wasting diuretics.</li></ul>
<b>Precautions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monitor closely patients with cardiovascular disorders, as fluctuations in heart rate, blood pressure, and EKG changes may occur.</li><li>There are reports of transient hypokalemia associated with use of albuterol.</li></ul>
<b>Dosing/Administration</b>	Adult and Pediatric: 2.5 mg/3 mL nebulized PRN
<b>Pregnancy Category</b>	<b>Class C</b> Uncertain safety – animal studies show adverse effect but no human studies exist