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Proventil HFA

Generic name: [Albuterol Inhalation Aerosol](#) [*al-BYOO-ter-ole*]

Brand names: Proventil HFA, [Ventolin HFA](#)

Drug class: [Adrenergic bronchodilators](#)

[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com. Last updated on Nov 14, 2023.

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Uses of Proventil HFA:

- It is used to open the airways in lung diseases where spasm may cause breathing problems.
- It is used to prevent breathing problems that happen with exercise.

What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take Proventil HFA?

- If you are allergic to [Proventil HFA](#) ([albuterol](#) inhalation aerosol); any part of [Proventil HFA](#) (albuterol inhalation aerosol); or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the [allergy](#) and what signs you had.
- If you are using another drug like this one. If you are not sure, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with Proventil HFA (albuterol inhalation aerosol).

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all of your drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, [vitamins](#)) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe for you to take Proventil HFA (albuterol inhalation aerosol) with all of your drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug without checking with your doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while I take Proventil HFA?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take Proventil HFA (albuterol inhalation aerosol). This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Do not take more of Proventil HFA (albuterol inhalation aerosol) or use it more often than you have been told. Deaths have happened when too much of Proventil HFA (albuterol inhalation aerosol) was taken. Talk with your doctor.
- Call your doctor right away if your normal dose does not work well, if your signs get worse, or if you need to use Proventil HFA (albuterol inhalation aerosol) more often than normal.
- If you have [high blood sugar](#) ([diabetes](#)), you will need to watch your blood sugar closely.
- Use with care in children. Talk with the doctor.

- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan on getting pregnant, or are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to you and the baby.

How is this medicine (Proventil HFA) best taken?

Use Proventil HFA (albuterol inhalation aerosol) as ordered by your doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

- For breathing into the lungs.
- If you are using more than 1 inhaled drug, ask the doctor which drug to use first.
- If working out or playing sports causes signs, use right before doing it.
- Follow how to clean carefully.
- Put the cap back on after you are done using your dose.
- Shake well before use.
- You will need to prime the inhaler before first use. You will also need to prime the inhaler if it has not been used for some time. Be sure you know when you need to prime the inhaler and how to do it. Talk with your doctor or pharmacist if you have questions.
- Some inhalers need to be primed if dropped. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.
- A spacer may be used with the inhaler for easy use.
- This inhaler may have a dose counter to keep track of how many doses are left. If it does, throw the inhaler away when the dose counter has a 0 in it.

What do I do if I miss a dose?

- If you use Proventil HFA (albuterol inhalation aerosol) on a regular basis, use a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
- If it is close to the time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your normal time.
- Do not use 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.
- Many times Proventil HFA (albuterol inhalation aerosol) is used on an as needed basis. Do not use more often than told by the doctor.

 [Detailed Proventil HFA dosage information](#)

What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like [rash](#); hives; [itching](#); red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without [fever](#); [wheezing](#); tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Signs of [high blood pressure](#) like very bad [headache](#) or dizziness, passing out, or change in eyesight.

- Signs of [low potassium](#) levels like [muscle pain](#) or weakness, muscle cramps, or a heartbeat that does not feel normal.
- Chest pain or pressure.
- Fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- This medicine may sometimes cause severe breathing problems. This may be life-threatening. When this happens with an inhaler or with liquid for breathing in, most of the time it happens right after a dose and after the first use of a new canister or vial of Proventil HFA (albuterol inhalation aerosol). If you have trouble breathing, breathing that is worse, wheezing, or coughing, get medical help right away.

 [Proventil HFA side effects](#) (more detail)

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What are some other side effects of Proventil HFA?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother you or do not go away:

- Feeling nervous and excitable.
- Dizziness or headache.
- [Upset stomach](#) or throwing up.
- Shakiness.
- Throat irritation.
- Runny nose.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-332-1088. You may also report side effects at <https://www.fda.gov/medwatch>.

If OVERDOSE is suspected:

If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

How do I store and/or throw out Proventil HFA?

- Store at room temperature protected from light. Store in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.
- Protect from cold.
- If the inhaler comes in a foil pouch, store in the foil pouch until ready for use.
- Protect from heat and sunlight. Do not puncture or burn even if it seems empty.
- Throw away the inhaler after the most number of sprays have been used, even if it feels like there is more drug in the can.
- Store with the mouthpiece down.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

Consumer Information Use and Disclaimer

- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Do not share your drugs with others and do not take anyone else's drugs.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. Check with your pharmacist. If you have any questions about Proventil HFA (albuterol inhalation aerosol), please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

Frequently asked questions

- [Can asthma inhalers cause a sore throat?](#)
- [Can you use an expired albuterol inhaler?](#)
- [Does either Ventolin or albuterol contain steroids?](#)
- [Does coffee help with asthma?](#)

- [What is albuterol sulfate and can I take it if I'm allergic to sulfa?](#)
- [How do you use the ProAir Digihaler?](#)

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- [Check interactions](#)
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Patient resources

- [Proventil HFA advanced reading](#)

Other brands

[Ventolin HFA](#), [Ventolin](#), [ProAir HFA](#), [Proventil](#), ... +5 more

Professional resources

- [Proventil HFA prescribing information](#)
- [Albuterol Sulfate, Levalbuterol Hydrochloride, Levalbuterol Tartrate \(Systemic, Oral Inhalation\) \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

Other brands

[Ventolin](#), [ProAir HFA](#), [ProAir Digihaler](#), [ProAir RespiClick](#)

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Further information

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.


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DRUG STATUS

Availability

Rx Prescription only

Pregnancy & Lactation

 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*

N/A Not a controlled drug



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