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# Primatene Mist Inhaler

**Generic name:** [epinephrine inhalation](#) [ *EP-i-NEF-rin* ]

**Drug classes:** [Adrenergic bronchodilators](#), [Catecholamines](#), [Vasopressors](#)



[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Oct 7, 2024. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).

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## What is Primatene Mist Inhaler?

Primatene Mist Inhaler is used to treat mild symptoms of asthma, including [wheezing](#), chest tightness, and [shortness of breath](#).

Primatene Mist Inhaler is for occasional use and is not a maintenance treatment for asthma.

Primatene Mist Inhaler may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

## Primatene Mist Inhaler side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction**: hives; difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

**This medicine may cause serious side effects. Stop using this medicine and call your doctor at once if you have:**

- worsening asthma symptoms;
- rapid heartbeats;
- a seizure;
- tremors, nervousness; or
- trouble sleeping.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.



[Primatene Mist side effects](#) (more detail)

## Related/similar drugs

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## Ventolin HFA

Ventolin HFA (albuterol) is used to treat or prevent breathing problems in patients who have asthma ...

### Reviews & ratings

7.5 / 10

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## Albuterol

Albuterol is a bronchodilator that relaxes muscles in the airways and increases air flow to the ...

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## Warnings

**Do not use Primatene Mist Inhaler if you have used an MAO inhibitor in the past 14 days**, such as [isocarboxazid](#), [linezolid](#), [methylene blue](#) injection, [phenelzine](#), [rasagiline](#), [selegiline](#), or [tranylcypromine](#).

## Before taking this medicine

**Do not use epinephrine if you have used an MAO inhibitor in the past 14 days.** A dangerous [drug interaction](#) could occur. MAO inhibitors include isocarboxazid, linezolid, methylene blue injection, phenelzine, rasagiline, selegiline, tranylcypromine, and others.

This medicine is for use only in people who have been diagnosed with asthma. Do not use Primatene Mist Inhaler to treat any condition that has not been checked by your doctor.

Ask a doctor or pharmacist if this medicine is safe to use if you have ever had:

- heart problems;
- [high blood pressure](#);
- a seizure;
- a thyroid disorder;
- narrow-angle [glaucoma](#);
- diabetes; or
- urination problems caused by an [enlarged prostate](#).

**Ask a doctor before using this medicine if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.**

[Epinephrine](#) is not approved for use by anyone younger than 12 years old.

## How should I use Primatene Mist Inhaler?

Use exactly as directed on the label, or as prescribed by your doctor.

**Read and carefully follow any instructions for Use provided with your medicine.** Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you do not understand these instructions.

Before using Primatene Mist Inhaler for the first time, shake the inhaler and prime it with 4 test sprays into the air, away from your face.

Also shake the inhaler just before each use and prime it with 1 spray.

Each dose is 1 to 2 inhalations. After the first inhalation, wait 1 minute. Then use a second inhalation if your symptoms have not improved.

Wait at least 4 hours between doses. **Do not use more than 8 inhalations in 24 hours.**

Seek medical attention if your breathing problems do not improve after 20 minutes, or if they get worse quickly.

Tell your doctor if you have more than 2 asthma attacks in 1 week.

**Do not share this medicine with another person**, even if they have the same symptoms you have.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Keep away from open flame or high heat. The canister may explode if it gets too hot. Do not puncture or burn an empty inhaler canister.

Wash the inhaler after each day of use by running water through the mouthpiece for 30 seconds.

 [Detailed Primatene Mist dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Since Primatene Mist Inhaler is used when needed, it does not have a daily dosing schedule. Call your doctor if your symptoms do not improve after using this medicine.

## What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

## What should I avoid while using Primatene Mist Inhaler?

Avoid foods or beverages that contain [caffeine](#) (including coffee, tea, cola, and energy drinks). Also avoid supplements or [herbal products](#) that have a stimulant effect.

## What other drugs will affect Primatene Mist Inhaler?

Ask a doctor or pharmacist before using Primatene Mist Inhaler with any other medications, especially:

- other asthma medications;
- allergy or cold medicine that contains a decongestant;

- diet pills, appetite suppressants, or medicines to help you lose weight;
- medicine that contains caffeine (such as medicine for pain, menstrual cramps, or migraine headaches); or
- medicine to treat [depression](#), mood disorders, or mental illness such as [schizophrenia](#).

This list is not complete. Other drugs may affect Primatene Mist Inhaler, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal products. Not all possible [drug interactions](#) are listed here.

 [Primatene Mist drug interactions](#) (more detail)

## Does Primatene Mist interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

Primatene Mist

+

Enter a drug name

Add

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## More FAQ

- [How is the new Primatene Mist different to the old formulation?](#)
- [Norepinephrine vs epinephrine: what's the difference?](#)

## More about Primatene Mist (epinephrine)

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## Patient resources

- [Primatene Mist advanced reading](#)

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## Professional resources

- [Primatene prescribing information](#)
- [Epinephrine \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

## Other brands

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## Other formulations

- [Primatene Asthma](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [Asthma, acute](#)

## Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.

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

OTC Over the counter


### Pregnancy & Lactation

 Risk data available

### CSA Schedule\*

N/A Not a controlled drug

### Approval History

 Drug history at FDA

### WADA Class

 Anti-Doping Classification



## User Reviews & Ratings

7.1 / 10

[42 Reviews](#)

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[ARS Pharmaceuticals Announces FDA Approval of neffy 1 mg \(epinephrine nasal spray\) for Type I Allergic Reactions in Pediatric Patients](#)

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