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2. Ipratropium

# Ipratropium inhalation

**Generic name:** ipratropium inhalation [ *IP-ra-TRO-pee-um* ]**Brand names:** [Atrovent HFA](#), [Atrovent](#)**Dosage forms:** inhalation aerosol (17 mcg/inh), inhalation solution (500 mcg/2.5 mL)**Drug class:** [Anticholinergic bronchodilators](#)[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Jun 26, 2024. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#)

## What is ipratropium inhalation?

[Ipratropium](#) is a bronchodilator that is used to prevent bronchospasm in people with COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), including [bronchitis](#) and [emphysema](#).

Ipratropium inhalation may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

## Ipratropium inhalation 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.

**You may need to use a different bronchodilator medication if you have an allergic reaction to ipratropium inhalation.**

**Ipratropium inhalation may cause serious side effects. Call your doctor at once if you have:**

- [wheezing](#), choking, or other breathing problems after using ipratropium inhalation;
- little or no urination;
- blurred vision, tunnel vision, eye pain, or seeing halos around lights; or
- worsened breathing problems.

**Common side effects of ipratropium inhalation may include:**

- [cold symptoms](#) such as stuffy nose, sneezing, [sore throat](#);
- cough with mucus, chest tightness, trouble breathing; or
- tiredness, or [headache](#).

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.

 [lpratropium side effects](#) (more detail)

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## Warnings

Do not get this medicine in your eyes, especially if you have [glaucoma](#).

Seek medical attention if your breathing problems get worse quickly, or if you think your medications are not working as well.

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use ipratropium inhalation if you are allergic to ipratropium or [atropine](#).

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- glaucoma;
- an [enlarged prostate](#); or
- bladder obstruction or other urination problems.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Ipratropium inhalation **aerosol** is not approved for use by anyone younger than 18 years old. Ipratropium inhalation **solution** is not approved for use by anyone younger than 12 years old.

## How should I use ipratropium inhalation?

Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Use the medicine exactly as directed.

Do not use more than 12 inhalations in a 24-hour period.

If you are using this medicine **with a nebulizer**, space your doses 6 to 8 hours apart.

**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 your first use of ipratropium inhalation **aerosol**, prime the inhaler with 2 test sprays into the air, away from your face. Prime again whenever the inhaler has not been used in longer than 3 days. You do not need to shake this medicine before each use.

**Ipratropium is not a rescue medicine for bronchospasm attacks.** Use only fast-acting inhalation medicine for an attack. Seek medical attention if your breathing problems get worse quickly, or if you think your medications are not working as well.

Store at room temperature away from moisture, heat, and light.

Keep the cover on your inhaler when not in use. 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.

Throw away the inhaler canister when the dose indicator reaches 0, even if it feels like there is still medicine inside.

Store unused vials in the foil pouch.

## Ipratropium inhalation dosing information

### Usual Adult Dose for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease -- Maintenance:

Inhalation aerosol: 2 inhalations (34 mcg) orally four times a day, or as needed up to 12 inhalations in 24 hours

Nebulizer inhalation solution: 500 mcg three or four times a day by oral nebulization, with doses 6 to 8 hours apart

Use:

-Maintenance treatment of bronchospasm associated with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), including [chronic bronchitis](#) and emphysema

### Usual Pediatric Dose for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease -- Maintenance:

Nebulizer inhalation solution:

Less than 12 years: Safety has not been established.

12 years or older: 500 mcg three or four times a day by oral nebulization, with doses 6 to 8 hours apart

Use:

-Maintenance treatment of bronchospasm associated with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), including chronic bronchitis and emphysema

 [Detailed Ipratropium dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Use the medicine as soon as you can, but skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next dose. **Do not** use two doses at one time.

**Do not use more than 12 inhalations in a 24-hour period.**

## 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 ipratropium inhalation?

Do not get ipratropium inhalation in your eyes, especially if you have glaucoma. Ipratropium inhalation accidentally sprayed into the eyes can cause blurred vision or eye irritation, and may make glaucoma worse.

This medicine may cause blurred vision and may impair your reactions. Avoid driving or hazardous activity until you know how this medicine will affect you.

## What other drugs will affect ipratropium inhalation?

Tell your doctor about all your other medicines, especially:

- medicine to treat [depression](#), anxiety, mood disorders, or mental illness;
- cold or allergy medicine ([Benadryl](#) and others);
- medicine to treat [Parkinson's disease](#);
- medicine to treat stomach problems, [motion sickness](#), or [irritable bowel syndrome](#);
- medicine to treat [overactive bladder](#); or
- another bronchodilator medication.

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

 [Ipratropium drug interactions](#) (more detail)

## Does ipratropium interact with my other drugs?

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

+

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## Patient resources

### Other brands

[Atrovent](#), [Atrovent HFA](#), [Ipratropium Inhalation Solution](#), [Ipratropium Inhalation Aerosol](#)

## Professional resources

- [Ipratropium \(Systemic, Oral Inhalation\) monograph](#)
- [Ipratropium \(FDA\)](#)

### Other brands

[Atrovent HFA](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [Asthma](#)
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- [COPD, Maintenance](#)
- [COPD, 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

**Rx** Prescription only


**Pregnancy & Lactation**

 Risk data available

**CSA Schedule\***

**N/A** Not a controlled drug

**Approval History**

 Drug history at FDA



## User Reviews & Ratings

8.3 / 10

[21 Reviews](#)

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