

## What's my Drug?

Beclometasone with formoterol and glycopyrronium (pMDI inhaler) is a combination inhaler containing a steroid (beclomethasone), and two relievers (formoterol and glycopyrronium). Glycopyrronium may also help to dry up secretions. This inhaler can be used in the treatment of COPD (chronic obstructive airways disease) or asthma. It works by reducing inflammation and opening up your airways. This allows air to get in and out better. Improvements can start quickly but it takes a week or two for it to be fully working. It is not an asthma or COPD reliever. It comes in two different strengths.

How to use it: This works by spraying the medicine into your mouth as you breathe in. Each new inhaler needs to be 'primed' before use. Ask your health professional about this. Inhale the spray. Make sure that you know how to do this. Either read the leaflet in the box or ask your healthcare professional. Always make sure the inhaler is clean and the mouthpiece is clear before using it. You do not want to inhale any objects or debris. Rinse your mouth after using this to prevent thrush in your mouth. If you have trouble using this, speak to your healthcare professional about something called a spacer which makes it easier. If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember, but do not double up the next dose.

**Possible side effects include:** A dry mouth, oral thrush, a slight change in your voice or a cough are common. Feeling sick, headache feeling anxious, or having trouble sleeping can happen. You could get muscle spasms or a bladder infection. Palpitations might happen.

Rare but important side effects include: If this inhaler makes your breathing more difficult (which it can in rare cases) please tell your health professional. An irregular pulse or heartbeat can happen. It can cause urinary problems in men who have problems with prostate problems. If you use this for a long time it is possible that you can get steroid side effects such as thinning of your bones.

**Warnings and Cautions:** If you get any side effects such as dizziness, make certain that you are safe to do so before driving or operating machinery. If you have diabetes, note that this might raise your blood sugars, so it is best to test. This medicine can affect the eye which could cause vision problems. Contact a doctor if you notice any vision problems. Growth can

be affected in children. Never stop taking this medicine suddenly. You may be given a Steroid Card with this inhaler. Check the Product Information Leaflet for full details of all its other potential side effects. For women: the manufacturer advises women to avoid using this medicine during pregnancy and use it only if particularly needed during breastfeeding.

Note: Old inhalers should not be disposed of with general household waste. To protect the environment, please return them to your pharmacy.