



El Dorado County Emergency Medical Services Agency

Quick Reference

Revised Date: July 1, 2020

Medication Profile

Albuterol Sulfate

(Ventolin, Proventil)

Class:

Bronchodilator/Beta₂ Agonist
Sympathomimetic/Sympathetic Agonist

Action:

Albuterol works by causing relaxation of the bronchial smooth muscle in the bronchial tree and stimulates adrenergic receptors of the sympathetic nervous system. Beta₂ selective.

Onset: 5-15 minutes

Peak: 1-1.5 hours

Duration: 3-4 hours

Adult Administration:

Bronchospasm

2.5mg/3ml NS via nebulizer. If severe distress persists, initiate continuous Albuterol via nebulizer, not to exceed 15mg/hr.

Crush Syndrome

5.0 mg in 6ml NS via nebulizer, run continuously before and after extrication.

Fire Line Medic

Albuterol HFA 108mcg/inhalation with attached Aerochamber Spacer. Inhale 2 puffs every 4 hours as needed for coughing, wheezing, or shortness of breath.

Pediatric:

Bronchospasm

2.5mg in 3ml NS via nebulizer. If severe distress persists repeat at 0.5mg/kg/hr to a max of 15mg/hr.

Crush Syndrome:

Less than 2 yrs: 2.5mg in 3ml of NS via nebulizer
Greater than 2 yrs: 5.0mg in 6ml NS via nebulizer
Run continuously before and after extrication. Per Base MD order

Indications:

Bronchospasm associated with reactive airway disease or acute attacks of bronchospasm (i.e., COPD, asthma, and allergic reactions).
Hyperkalemia associated with crush injury

Contraindications:

Hypersensitivity/allergy

Side Effects:

CV: Tachycardia, hypertension, palpitations

CNS: Tremulousness, anxiety, headache, restlessness

Pregnancy

Category C

Notes:

- Supplemental continuous oxygen should be given in all patients receiving albuterol.