



Ipratropium Bromide and Albuterol Sulfate Inhalation Solution 0.5 mg/3 mg, USP

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**Ipratropium Bromide and Albuterol Sulfate Inhalation Solution, USP 0.5 mg/3 mg**

**\*Equivalent to 2.5 mg albuterol base**

**DESCRIPTION**

The active components in ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution are albuterol sulfate and ipratropium bromide.

Albuterol sulfate, is a salt of racemic albuterol and a relatively selective  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic bronchodilator chemically described as  $\alpha'$ -[(tert-butylamino)methyl]-4-hydroxy-m-xylene- $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha'$ -diol sulfate (2:1) (salt). It has a molecular weight of 576.7 and the molecular formula is  $(C_{21}H_{29}NO_6)_2 \cdot H_2SO_4$ . It is a white or practically white powder, soluble in water and slightly soluble in ethanol. The World Health Organization recommended name for albuterol base is salbutamol.

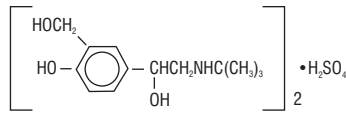


Figure 3 1-1. Chemical structure of albuterol sulfate.

Ipratropium bromide is an anticholinergic bronchodilator chemically described as 8-azoniabicyclo [3.2.1]octane, 3-(3-hydroxy-1-oxo-2-phenylpropoxy)-8-methyl-8-(1-methylethyl)-, bromide, monohydrate (endo, syn)-, ( $\pm$ )-; a synthetic quaternary ammonium compound, chemically related to atropine. It has a molecular weight of 430.4 and the molecular formula is  $C_{24}H_{34}BrNO_4 \cdot H_2O$ . It is a white to off-white crystalline substance, freely soluble in water and lower alcohols, and insoluble in lipophilic solvents such as ether, chloroform, and fluorocarbons.

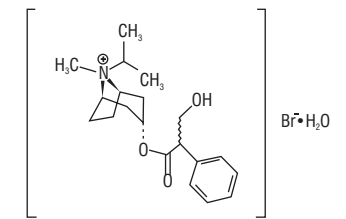


Figure 3. 1-2. Chemical structure of ipratropium bromide.

Each 3 mL vial of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution contains 3 mg (0.1%) of albuterol sulfate USP (equivalent to 2.5 mg (0.083%) of albuterol base) and 0.5 mg (0.017%) of ipratropium bromide USP in an isotonic, sterile, aqueous solution containing sodium chloride, hydrochloric acid to adjust to pH 4, edetate disodium, USP (a chelating agent) and water for injection.

Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution is a clear, colorless solution. It does not require dilution prior to administration by nebulization. For ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution, like all other nebulized treatments, the amount delivered to the lungs will depend on patient factors, the jet nebulizer utilized, and compressor performance. Using the Pari-LC-Plus™ nebulizer (with face mask or mouthpiece) connected to a PRONEB™ compressor system, under in vitro conditions, the mean delivered dose from the mouth piece (% nominal dose) was approximately 46% of albuterol and 42% of ipratropium bromide at a mean flow rate of 3.6 L/min. The mean nebulization time was 15 minutes or less. Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution should be administered from jet nebulizers at adequate flow rates, via face masks or mouthpieces (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

**CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**

Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution is a combination of the  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic bronchodilator, albuterol sulfate, and the anticholinergic bronchodilator, ipratropium bromide.

**Albuterol Sulfate**

**Mechanism of Action:** The prime action of  $\beta$ -adrenergic drugs is to stimulate adenylyl cyclase, the enzyme that catalyzes the formation of cyclic-3',5'-adenosine monophosphate (cAMP) from adenosine triphosphate (ATP). The cAMP thus formed mediates the cellular responses. In vitro studies and in vivo pharmacologic studies have demonstrated that albuterol has a preferential effect on  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic receptors compared with isoproterenol. While it is recognized that  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic receptors are the predominant receptors in bronchial smooth muscle, recent data indicated that 10% to 50% of the  $\beta$ -receptors in the human heart may be  $\beta_2$ -receptors. The precise function of these receptors, however, is not yet established. Albuterol has been shown in most controlled clinical trials to have more effect on the respiratory tract, in the form of bronchial smooth muscle relaxation, than isoproterenol at comparable doses while producing fewer cardiovascular effects. Controlled clinical studies and other clinical experience have shown that inhaled albuterol, like other  $\beta$ -adrenergic agonist drugs, can produce a significant cardiovascular effect in some patients.

**Pharmacokinetics:** Albuterol sulfate is longer acting than isoproterenol in most patients by any route of administration, because it is not a substrate for the cellular uptake processes for catecholamine nor for the metabolism of catechol-O-methyl transferase. Instead the drug is conjugatively metabolized to albuterol 4-O-sulfate.

**Animal Pharmacology/Toxicology:** Intravenous studies in rats with albuterol sulfate have demonstrated that albuterol crosses the blood-brain barrier and reaches brain concentrations amounting to approximately 5% of plasma concentrations. In structures outside of the blood-brain barrier (pineal and pituitary glands), albuterol concentrations were found to be 100 times those found in whole brain.

Studies in laboratory animals (minipigs, rodents, and dogs) have demonstrated the occurrence of cardiac arrhythmias and sudden death (with histological evidence of myocardial necrosis) when beta-agonists and methyl-xanthines are administered concurrently. The clinical significance of these findings is unknown.

**Ipratropium Bromide**

**Mechanism of Action:** Ipratropium bromide is an anticholinergic (parasympatholytic) agent, which blocks the muscarinic receptors of acetylcholine, and, based on animal studies, appears to inhibit vagally mediated reflexes by antagonizing the action of acetylcholine, the transmitter agent released from the vagus nerve. Anticholinergics prevent the increases in intracellular concentration of cyclic guanosine monophosphate (cGMP), resulting from the interaction of acetylcholine with the muscarinic receptors of bronchial smooth muscle.

**Pharmacokinetics:** The bronchodilation following inhalation of ipratropium is primarily a local, site-specific effect, not a systemic one. Much of an inhaled dose is swallowed as shown by fecal excretion studies. Following nebulization of a 1 mg dose to healthy volunteers, a mean of 4% of the dose was excreted unchanged in the urine.

Ipratropium bromide is minimally (0% to 9% in vitro) bound to plasma albumin and  $\alpha$ -acid glycoproteins. It is partially metabolized to inactive ester hydrolysis products. Following intravenous administration, approximately one-half is excreted unchanged in the urine. The half-life of elimination is about 1.6 hours after intravenous administration. Ipratropium bromide that reaches the systemic circulation is reportedly removed by the kidneys rapidly at a rate that exceeds the glomerular filtration rate. The pharmacokinetics of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution or ipratropium bromide have not been studied in the elderly and in patients with hepatic or renal insufficiency (see PRECAUTIONS).

**Animal Pharmacology/Toxicology:** Autoradiographic studies in rats have shown that ipratropium does not penetrate the blood-brain barrier.

**Ipratropium Bromide and Albuterol Sulfate Inhalation Solution 0.5 mg/3 mg**

**Mechanism of Action:** Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate is expected to maximize the response to treatment in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) by reducing bronchospasm through two distinctly different mechanisms: sympathomimetic (albuterol sulfate) and anticholinergic/parasympatholytic (ipratropium bromide). Simultaneous administration of both an anticholinergic and a  $\beta_2$ -sympathomimetic is designed to produce greater bronchodilation effects than when either drug is utilized alone at its recommended dosage.

**Animal Pharmacology/Toxicology:**

In 30-day studies in Sprague-Dawley rats and Beagle dogs, subcutaneous doses of up to 205.5 mcg/kg of ipratropium administered with up to 1,000 mcg/kg albuterol in rats and 3:16 mcg/kg ipratropium and 15 mcg/kg albuterol in dogs (less than the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) did not cause death or potentiation of the cardiotoxicity induced by albuterol administered alone.

**Pharmacokinetics:**

In a double blind, double period, crossover study, 15 male and female subjects were administered single doses of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution or albuterol sulfate inhalation solution at two times the recommended single doses as two inhalations separated by 15 minutes. The total nebulized dose of albuterol sulfate from both treatments was 6 mg and the total dose of ipratropium bromide from ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution was 1 mg. Peak albuterol plasma concentrations occurred at 0.8 hours after dosing for both treatments. The mean peak albuterol concentration following administration of albuterol sulfate alone was 4.86 ( $\pm$  2.65) mg/mL and it was 4.65 ( $\pm$  2.92) mg/mL for ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate. Mean AUC values for the two treatments were 26.6 ( $\pm$  15.2) ng-hr/mL (albuterol sulfate alone) versus 24.2 ( $\pm$  14.5) ng-hr/mL (ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate). The mean t<sub>1/2</sub> values were 7.2 ( $\pm$  1.3) hours (albuterol sulfate alone) and 6.7 ( $\pm$  1.7) hours (ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate). A mean of 8.4 ( $\pm$  8.9)% of the albuterol dose was excreted unchanged in urine following administration of two vials of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate which is similar to 8.8 ( $\pm$  7.3)% that was obtained from albuterol sulfate inhalation solution. There were no statistically significant differences in the pharmacokinetics of albuterol between the two treatments. For ipratropium, a mean of 3.9 ( $\pm$  5.1)% of the ipratropium bromide dose was excreted unchanged in urine following two vials of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution, which is comparable with previously reported data.

**Clinical Trials:** In a 12 week, randomized, double-blind, positive-control, crossover study of albuterol sulfate, ipratropium bromide, and ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate, 863 COPD patients were evaluated for bronchodilator efficacy comparing ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate with albuterol sulfate and ipratropium bromide alone.

Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate demonstrated significantly better changes in FEV<sub>1</sub> as measured from baseline to peak response, when compared with either albuterol sulfate or ipratropium bromide. Ipratropium bromide, and ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate, also shown to have the rapid onset associated with albuterol sulfate, with a mean time to peak FEV<sub>1</sub> of 1.5 hours, and the extended duration associated with ipratropium bromide with a duration of 15% response in FEV<sub>1</sub> of 4.3 hours.

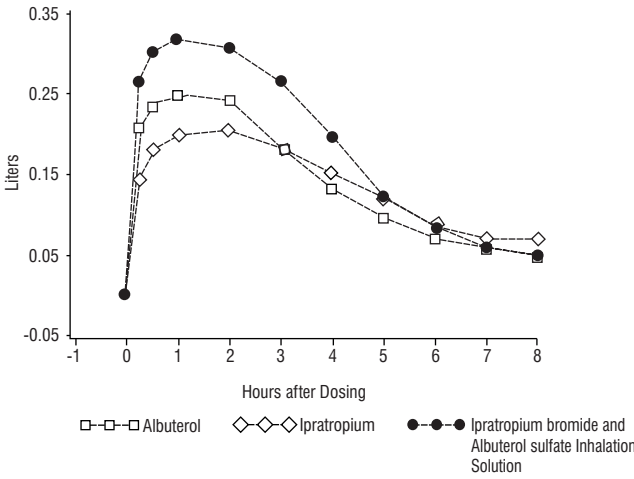


Figure 3. 1-3. Mean Change in FEV<sub>1</sub> - Measured on Day 14

This study demonstrated that each component of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate contributed to the improvement in pulmonary function, especially during the first 4 to 5 hours after dosing, and that ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate was significantly more effective than albuterol sulfate or ipratropium bromide alone.

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution is indicated for the treatment of bronchospasm associated with COPD in patients requiring more than one bronchodilator.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate inhalation solution is contraindicated in patients with a history of hypersensitivity to any of its components, or to atropine and its derivatives.

**WARNINGS**

**Paradoxical Bronchospasm:** In the clinical study of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate, paradoxical bronchospasm was not observed. However, paradoxical bronchospasm has been observed with both inhaled ipratropium bromide and albuterol products and can be life-threatening. If this occurs, ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate should be discontinued immediately and alternative therapy instituted.

**Do Not Exceed Recommended Dose:** Fatalities have been reported in association with excessive use of inhaled products containing sympathomimetic amines and with the home use of nebulizers.

**Cardiovascular Effect:** Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate, like other beta adrenergic agonists, can produce a clinically significant cardiovascular effect in some patients as measured by pulse rate, blood pressure, and/or symptoms. Although such effects are uncommon for ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate at recommended doses, if they occur, the drug may need to be discontinued. In addition, beta agonists have been reported to produce ECG changes, such as flattening of the T-wave, prolongation of the QTc interval, and ST segment depression. The clinical significance of these findings is unknown. Therefore, ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate, like other sympathomimetic amines, should be used with caution in patients with cardiovascular disorders, especially coronary insufficiency, cardiac arrhythmias, and hypertension.

**Immediate Hypersensitivity Reactions:** Immediate hypersensitivity reactions to albuterol and/or ipratropium bromide may occur after the administration of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate as demonstrated by rare cases of urticaria, angioedema, rash, pruritus, oropharyngeal edema, bronchospasm, and anaphylaxis.

**PRECAUTIONS**

**General**

- Effects Seen with Sympathomimetic Drugs:** As with all products containing sympathomimetic amines, ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate should be used with caution in patients with cardiovascular disorders, especially coronary insufficiency, cardiac arrhythmias, and hypertension; in patients with convulsive disorders, hyperthyroidism, or diabetes mellitus; and in patients who are unusually responsive to sympathomimetic amines. Large doses of intravenous albuterol have been reported to aggravate preexisting diabetes mellitus and ketoacidosis. Additionally,  $\beta$ -agonists may cause a decrease in serum potassium in some patients, possibly through intracellular shunting. The decrease is usually transient, not requiring supplementation.
- Effects Seen with Anticholinergic Drugs:** Due to the presence of ipratropium bromide in ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate, it should be used with caution in patients with narrow-angle glaucoma, prostatic hypertrophy, or bladder-neck obstruction.
- Use in Hepatic or Renal Disease:** Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate has not been studied in patients with hepatic or renal insufficiency. It should be used with caution in these patient populations.

**Information for Patients**

The action of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate should last up to 5 hours. Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate should not be used more frequently than recommended. Patients should be instructed not to increase the dose or frequency of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate without consulting their healthcare provider. If symptoms worsen, patients should be instructed to seek medical consultation.

Patients must avoid exposing their eyes to this product as temporary pupillary dilation, blurred vision, eye pain, or precipitation or worsening of narrow-angle glaucoma may occur, and therefore proper nebulizer technique should be assured, particularly if a mask is used.

If a patient becomes pregnant or begins nursing while on ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate, they should contact their healthcare provider about use of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate.

See the illustrated Patient's Instruction for Use in the product package insert.

**Drug Interactions**

**Anticholinergic agents:** Although ipratropium bromide is minimally absorbed into the systemic circulation, there is some potential for an additive interaction with concomitantly used anticholinergic medications. Caution is, therefore, advised in the coadministration of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate with other drugs having anticholinergic properties.

**$\beta$ -adrenergic agents:** Caution is advised in the coadministration of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate and other sympathomimetic agents due to the increased risk of adverse cardiovascular effects.

**$\beta$ -receptor blocking agents:** These agents and albuterol sulfate inhibit the effect of each other.  $\beta$ -receptor blocking agents should be used with caution in patients with hyperreactive airways, and if used, relatively selective  $\beta_1$  selective agents are recommended.

**Diuretics:** The electrocardiogram (ECG) changes and/or hypokalemia that may result from the administration of non-potassium sparing diuretics (such as loop or thiazide diuretics) can be acutely worsened by  $\beta$ -agonists, especially when the recommended dose of the  $\beta$ -agonist is exceeded. Although the clinical significance of these effects is not known, caution is advised in the coadministration of  $\beta$ -agonist-containing drugs, such as ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate, with non-potassium sparing diuretics.

**Monoamine oxidase inhibitors or tricyclic antidepressants:** Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate should be administered with extreme caution to patients being treated with monoamine oxidase inhibitors or tricyclic antidepressants, or within 2 weeks of discontinuation of such agents because the action of albuterol sulfate on the cardiovascular system may be potentiated.

**Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility**

**Albuterol sulfate:** In a 2-year study in Sprague-Dawley rats, albuterol sulfate caused a significant dose-related increase in the incidence of benign leiomyomas of the mesovarium at and above dietary doses of 2 mg/kg (approximately equal to the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis). In a 22-month study in Golden hamsters, albuterol sulfate showed no evidence of tumorigenicity at dietary doses up to 50 mg/kg (approximately 20 times the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis).

**Albuterol sulfate** was not mutagenic in the Ames test or a mutation test in yeast. Albuterol sulfate was not clastogenic in a human peripheral lymphocyte assay or in an AH1 strain mouse micronucleus assay.

Reproduction studies in rats demonstrated no evidence of impaired fertility at oral doses of albuterol sulfate up to 50 mg/kg (approximately 25 times the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis).

**Ipratropium bromide:** In 2-year studies in Sprague-Dawley rats and CD-1 mice, ipratropium bromide showed no evidence of tumorigenicity at oral doses up to 6 mg/kg (approximately 15 times and 8 times the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults in rats and mice respectively, on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis).

Ipratropium bromide was not mutagenic in the Ames test and mouse dominant lethal test. Ipratropium bromide was not clastogenic in a mouse micronucleus assay.

A reproduction study in rats demonstrated decreased conception and increased resorptions when ipratropium bromide was administered orally at a dose of 90 mg/kg (approximately 240 times the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis). These effects were not seen with a dose of 50 mg/kg (approximately 140 times the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis).

**Pregnancy**

**TERATOGENIC EFFECTS:** Pregnancy Category C

**Albuterol sulfate:** Pregnancy Category C. Albuterol sulfate has been shown to be teratogenic in mice. A study in CD-1 mice given albuterol sulfate subcutaneously showed cleft palate formation in 5 of 111 (4.5%) fetuses at 0.25 mg/kg (less than the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) and in 10 of 108 (9.3%) fetuses at 2.5 mg/kg (approximately equal to the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis). The drug did not induce cleft palate formation when administered subcutaneously at a dose of 0.025 mg/kg (less than the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis). Cleft palate formation also occurred in 22 of 72 (30.5%) fetuses from females treated subcutaneously with 2.5 mg/kg isoproterenol (positive control).

A reproduction study in Stride rabbits revealed cranioschisis in 7 of 19 (37%) fetuses when albuterol was administered orally at a dose of 50 mg/kg (approximately 55 times the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis).

A study in which pregnant rats were dosed with radiolabeled albuterol sulfate demonstrated that drug-related material is transferred from the maternal circulation to the fetus.

During worldwide marketing experience, various congenital anomalies, including cleft palate and limb defects, have been reported in the offspring of patients being treated with albuterol. Some of the mothers were taking multiple medications during their pregnancies. Because no consistent pattern of defects can be discerned, a relationship between albuterol use and congenital anomalies has not been established.

**Ipratropium bromide:** Pregnancy Category B. Reproduction studies in CD-1 mice, Sprague-Dawley rats and New Zealand rabbits demonstrated no evidence of teratogenicity at oral doses up to 10, 100, and 125 mg/kg, respectively (approximately 15, 270, and 680 times the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis). Reproduction studies in rats and rabbits demonstrated no evidence of teratogenicity at inhalation doses up to 1.5 and 1.8 mg/kg, respectively (approximately 4 and 10 times the maximum recommended daily inhalation dose for adults on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis). There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of the use of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate, albuterol sulfate, or ipratropium bromide in pregnant women. Ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

**Labor and Delivery**

Oral albuterol sulfate has been shown to delay preterm labor in some reports. Because of the potential of albuterol to interfere with uterine contractility, use of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate during labor should be restricted to those patients in whom the benefits clearly outweigh the risks.

**Nursing Mothers**

It is not known whether the components of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate are excreted in human milk. Although lipid-insoluble quaternary bases pass into breast milk, it is unlikely that ipratropium bromide would reach the infant to an important extent, especially when taken as a nebulized solution. Because of the potential for tumorigenicity shown for albuterol sulfate in some animals, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or discontinue ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

**Pediatric Use**

The safety and effectiveness of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate in patients below 18 years of age have not been established.

**Geriatric Use**

Of the total number of subjects in clinical studies of ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate, 62 percent were 65 and over, while 19 percent were 75 and over. No overall differences in safety or effectiveness were observed between these subjects and younger subjects, and other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients, but greater sensitivity of some older individuals cannot be ruled out.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

Adverse reaction information concerning ipratropium bromide and albuterol sulfate was derived from the 12-week controlled clinical trial.

Front Side 270 mm

Actual Size: 270x430 mm  
Folding Size: 46x49 mm



