

Essential drugs / Oral drugs

SALBUTAMOL = ALBUTEROL nebuliser solution

Prescription under medical supervision

Therapeutic action

- Short-acting bronchodilator

Indications

- Symptomatic treatment of severe acute bronchospasm, e.g. in severe acute asthma attack

Forms and strengths

- Solution for inhalation, in unit dose vial of 5 mg in 2.5 ml (2 mg/ml), to be administered via a nebuliser

Dosage and duration

- Child under 5 years or under 15 kg: 2.5 mg (1.25 ml) per nebulisation, to be repeated every 20 to 30 minutes if necessary
- Child 5 years and over and adult: 2.5 to 5 mg (1.25 to 2.5 ml) per nebulisation, to be repeated every 20 to 30 minutes if necessary

Contra-indications, adverse effects, precautions

- May cause: headache, tremor, tachycardia, hyperglycaemia; hypokalaemia (after large doses).
- Never use nebuliser solution by the parenteral route.
- *Pregnancy: no contra-indication*
- *Breast-feeding: no contra-indication*

Remarks

- Nebulised salbutamol should be reserved for severe acute asthma attacks. Otherwise, salbutamol should be delivered via a metered-dose inhaler with a spacer: administration is easier and faster, the treatment is as effective, or even more effective, than with a nebuliser and causes fewer adverse effects.
- Volumes of nebuliser solution to be administered are insufficient to obtain efficient nebulisation in most nebulisers: dilute salbutamol solution with 0.9% sodium chloride to obtain a total volume of 4 ml in the

reservoir of the nebuliser. Stop the nebulisati

– Storage: below 25 °C - ~~7~~