

ALBUTEROL (Ventolin or Proventil)

ACTION: Bronchodilator (beta2 adrenergic agonist)

- Albuterol is a sympathomimetic that is selective for beta-2 adrenergic receptors resulting in prompt bronchodilation.
- Albuterol also reduces serum potassium levels through stimulation of beta-2 adrenergic receptors.

INDICATIONS:

- Reversible bronchospasm due to asthma or COPD

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Tachydysrhythmias.
- Known hypersensitivity to the drug.
- Use cautiously in elderly patients and patients with cardiovascular disease.

POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS:

- Tachydysrhythmias and palpitations
- Anxiety and nervousness
- Nausea and vomiting
- Dizziness
- Headache

ADULT DOSE/ROUTE:

⇒ 5 mg/6mlNS via nebulizer over 5 to 15 min. May repeat x 1 if no relief from symptoms.

PEDIATRIC DOSE/ROUTE:

⇒ 2.5 mg/3 ml NS via nebulizer over 5 to 15 min. May repeat x 1 if no relief from symptoms.

NOTES:

- Use mask nebulizer if patient is unable to use hand-held nebulizer.
- Use in line bag valve mask to deliver albuterol if inadequate tidal volume to ensure good administration with a nebulizer.
- Albuterol may be administered as indicated during the use of CPAP.