Salbutamol

Essential medicine status

Section: 25. Medicines acting on the respiratory tract > 25.1. Antiasthmatic and medicines for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

ATC codes: R03AC02

Indication	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease ICD11 code: CA22
INN	Salbutamol
Medicine type	Chemical agent
List type	Core
Formulations	**Parenteral > General injections > IV:** 500 µg per mL in 1 mL ampoule (as sulfate) ; 500 µg per mL in 5 mL ampoule (as sulfate) **Respiratory > Inhalation > solution:** 100 µg per actuation in pressurized metered dose inhaler (as sulfate) ; 2.5 mg per 2.5 mL in 2.5 mL ampoule (as sulfate) for use in nebulizers ; 5 mg per 2.5 mL in 2.5 mL ampoule (as sulfate) for use in nebulizers ; 5 mg per mL in multi-dose bottle (as sulfate) for use in nebulizers
EML status history	First added in 2003 (TRS 920) Changed in 2009 (TRS 958) Changed in 2011 (TRS 965) Changed in 2021 (TRS 1035) Changed in 2025 (TRS 1064)
Sex	All
Age	Adolescents and adults
Therapeutic alternatives	terbutaline (ATC codes: R03CC03)
Patent information	Patents have expired in most jurisdictions Read more about patents.
Wikipedia	Salbutamol
DrugBank	Salbutamol

Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations

Following the review of the age-appropriateness of formulations of essential medicines for children, the Expert Committee recommended the following changes to the listing of salbutamol on the EML and EMLc: - update the listing description of inhalation delivery systems for consistency across the Model Lists and to better reflect product characteristics. - amend the listed strength of salbutamol injection from 50 micrograms/mL in 5 mL ampoule to 500 micrograms/mL in 1 mL and 5 mL ampoules.