25. Medicines acting on the respiratory tract

25.1. Antiasthmatic and medicines for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

Salbutamol

**Essential medicine status**

**ATC codes:**
R03AC02
EMLc

**Indication**
Asthma

**INN**
Salbutamol

**Medicine type**
Chemical agent

**List type**
Core

**Formulations**
- Parenteral > General injections > IV: 50 µg per mL in 5 mL ampoule (as sulfate)
- Respiratory > Inhalation > aerosol: 100 µg per dose (as sulfate) ; 100 µg per dose (as sulfate) metered-dose inhaler
- Respiratory > Inhalation > solution: 5 mg per mL (as sulfate) for use in nebulizers

**EML status history**
- First added in 1977 (TRS 615)
- Changed in 1979 (TRS 641)
- Changed in 1984 (TRS 722)
- Changed in 1987 (TRS 770)
- Changed in 1991 (TRS 825)
- Changed in 2007 (TRS 950)
- Changed in 2009 (TRS 958)
- Changed in 2011 (TRS 965)
- Changed in 2021

**Sex**
All

**Age**
Also recommended for children

**Therapeutic alternatives**
terbutaline (ATC codes: R03CC03)

**Patent information**
Patents have expired in most jurisdictions
Read more about patents.

**Wikipedia**
Salbutamol

**DrugBank**
Salbutamol

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**Summary of evidence and Expert Committee recommendations**

Following the review of square box listings on the EML and EMLc, the Expert Committee recommended terbutaline be specified as a therapeutic alternatives under the square box listing for salbutamol on the EML and EMLc for this indication.