FDA-Approved Asthma and COPD Nebulizer Medications

May 2009

FDA-Approved Generics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug Name</th>
<th>Brand Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>albuterol sulfate</td>
<td>AccuNeb — Dey, L.P. 0.63 mg, 1.25 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>levalbuterol hydrochloride</td>
<td>Xopenex — Sepracor Inc. 0.31 mg, 0.63 mg, 1.25 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ipratropium bromide</td>
<td>no brand available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ipratropium bromide and</td>
<td>0.5 mg ipratropium bromide and 3.0 mg albuterol sulfate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>albuterol sulfate</td>
<td>Dey, L.P. 0.63 mg, 1.25 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>budesonide</td>
<td>0.25 mg, 0.5 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cromolyn sodium</td>
<td>10 mg, 20 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>formoterol fumarate</td>
<td>no generics available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>formoterol tartrate</td>
<td>no generics available</td>
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FDA-Approved Nebulizer Medication

Use only Food and Drug Administration approved brand-name or generic medications intended for use in nebulizers. Ask your prescriber to write “Do not compound; do not substitute” on your prescription. Make sure that the prescription is filled with the medication your doctor prescribed.

Nebulizer medications are prescribed in unit-dose vials (usually packaged in sealed foil pouches) and multidose bottles. Unit-dose vials are simple to use; simply open and pour a measured and mixed solution or suspension into the nebulizer medication cup.

- Multidose bottles are usually less expensive but require careful handling to avoid contaminating the solution. Wash your hands before opening the medicine. Use a sterile metered syringe to measure out medication; mix with sterile saline solution in the nebulizer medication cup.

NOTE: Some multidose bottles contain preservatives, such as benzalkonium chloride (BAC) and diiodium ethylene diamine tetraacetic acid (EDTA), which can sometimes irritate sensitive airways. Talk with your healthcare provider if your symptoms are not responding to the medication the way you expect them to.

Expiration date embossed onto vial
Medication name and dosage embossed onto vial
Medication lot number embossed onto vial
Pharmaceutical manufacturer name embossed onto vial

Not FDA-Approved Nebulizer Medication

Imposters come in all shapes and sizes. The plastic “wings” and paper labels are due to question the safety, source, potency, sterility and inactive ingredients.

The source of ingredients in your nebulizer vial may be unknown — and untraceable.

Don’t assume a patent number applies to a medication. This one refers to the plastic vial.

Do not use a nebulizer medication that smells foul, rotten or spoiled, or like it may contain rubbing alcohol. Stop the nebulizer treatment if the medication becomes foamy or bubbly during nebulization.

Paper labels leach toxins into nebulizer solutions; all lack FDA-mandated information such as dose, expiration date and lot number.

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For more information: aanma.org/advocacy

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