

ALBUTEROL

PHARMACOLOGY & ACTIONS:

- A potent relatively selective beta 2 - adrenergic bronchodilator.
- Has occasional beta 1 overlap with clinically significant cardiac effects.

INDICATIONS:

- Bronchial asthma
- Reversible bronchial spasm that occur with chronic pulmonary disease.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Stop treatment if pulse increases by 20 bpm, frequent PVCs develop, any tachyarrhythmias other than sinus tachycardia appear, chest pain, apnea, nausea or vomiting, or increased shortness of breath occur.

ADMINISTRATION:

- Nebulizer dosage for adults & children over 1 year - 2.5 mg Albuterol mixed in 3 ml of saline.
- Infants under 1 year: Nebulizer dosage 0.03 ml/kg max dose 1ml.
- Nebulization:
 - Oxygen flow should be set at 6 lpm.
 - Patients should inhale slowly & exhale passively through nose.
- Albuterol Metered Dose Inhalers (MDI) - delivers 90 mcg per puff
 - Assemble one BVM, one AeroChamber, oxygen tubing and Albuterol inhaler.
 - Begin with two Albuterol puffs into chamber & assist patient's ventilations using the BVM & high flow oxygen.
 - After one minute, repeat with two puffs.
 - Repeat two puffs every two minutes if improvement is not noted.
 - DO NOT EXCEED 20 PUFFS.

SIDE EFFECTS & SPECIAL NOTES:

- Patients with COPD should be monitored carefully for CO₂ retention & decreased levels of consciousness.
- Paradoxical bronchospasm may occur with excessive administration.
- Skeletal muscle tremors
- Albuterol should be used with caution in pregnancy.
- Continually assess patient's respiratory rate, effort, and lung sounds.

CLASS: A

PROTOCOL(S) USED IN: Respiratory Distress, Asthma