ACTIONS

Albuterol is primarily a beta-2 sympathomimetic and as such produces bronchodilation. Because of its greater specificity for beta-2 adrenergic receptors it produces fewer cardiovascular side effects and more prolonged bronchodilation than isoproterenol. Onset is within 15 minutes; peaks in 60-90 minutes. Therapeutic effects may be active up to 5 hours.

INDICATIONS

Albuterol inhaler is indicated for relief of bronchospasm in patients with reversible obstructive airway disease including asthma.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Albuterol is contraindicated in patients with a history of hypersensitivity.

WARNINGS

Use cautiously in patients with coronary artery disease, hypertension, hyperthyroidism, and diabetes. Administer cautiously to patients on MAO inhibitors or tricyclic antidepressants. Beta-Blockers and Albuterol will inhibit each other.

ADVERSE REACTIONS AND SIDE EFFECTS

Cardiovascular: Tachycardia, hypertension, and angina.

CNS: Nervousness, tremor, headache, dizziness, and insomnia.

GI: Drying of oropharynx, nausea, and vomiting, unusual taste.
DOSAGE

If >1 year or >10 kg: 2.5 mg (3 ml of premixed solution) (all of the plastic ampule) @6-8 Liters of flow.

If <1 year or <10 kg: 1.25 mg (1.5 ml of the premixed solution) (1/2 of the plastic ampule) @3 liters of flow.

Treatment will be delivered over approximately 5 to 15 minutes.