

## Who can administer

May be administered by registered competent doctor or nurse/midwife

## Important information

- Salbutamol (and other Beta<sub>2</sub> agonists) are no longer recommended for inhibiting pre-term labour. Use of high-dose short acting beta<sub>2</sub> agonists in obstetric indications has been associated with serious, sometimes fatal cardiovascular events in the mother and fetus, particularly when used for a prolonged period of time<sup>Â (ref BNF)</sup>
- For Y-site compatibility [see below](#)

## Available preparations

Ventolin 500 microgram per 1ml ampoule (for intravenous injection)

Ventolin concentrate 5mg per 5ml ampoule (for intravenous infusion)

## Reconstitution

Already in solution

**Dilute further prior to administration**

**Draw up using a 5 micron filter needle**

## Infusion fluids

Sodium chloride 0.9% or Glucose 5%

## Methods of intravenous administration

### Slow intravenous injection<sup>(ref 1)</sup>

- Use **500 microgram per ml ampoule** - make up to 10ml with Water for Injections
- Administer required dose over 3 to 5 minutes

### Intravenous infusion (use an electronically controlled infusion device)

- Add 1 X 5mg ampoule to 500ml infusion fluid (result is a 10microgram per ml infusion)
- If **fluid restricted** anecdotal evidence suggests **10mg in 50ml** (200micrograms per ml) via central or peripheral line could be used if larger volumes are thought to lead to adverse effects<sup>(ref 1)</sup>

## Dose in adults

Indication	Route of administration	Dose
<b>Bronchospasm and status asthmaticus</b>	Slow intravenous injection	Give 250 micrograms (4micrograms/kg), repeated if necessary
	Continuous intravenous infusion	A starting dose of 5 micrograms per minute is recommended with appropriate adjustment in dosage according to patient response and heart rate. Infusion rates of 3 to 20micrograms per minute are generally adequate but in patients with respiratory failure, higher doses have been used with success.

## Monitoring

- Potentially serious **hypokalaemia** may result from salbutamol therapy. Plasma-potassium concentration should therefore be monitored in severe asthma
- Monitor blood glucose, lactate and potassium levels

## Storage

- Store below 25<sup>0</sup>C

## References

SPC Ventolin injection 04/03/82024

SPC Ventolin concentrate solution 04/03/82024

(1) Injectable Medicines Administration Guide Medusa, downloaded 28/01/2025

## Therapeutic classification

Bronchodilator, Beta-2-agonist