

## Inhaler identification checker

This resource has been created to assist pharmacists and their relevant members of staff, for example an accuracy checking technician (ACT), with selecting the correct inhaler(s)/device(s) for dispensing against generic prescriptions.

Information received through the NPA's patient safety incident reporting system, has identified incorrect dispensing of inhalers against generically written prescriptions as a common issue. Examples of this include:

- Wrong drug(s) being supplied – for example, Fostair®/salbutamol, Anoro® Ellipta®/Relvar® Ellipta®, Seretide®/fluticasone, Symbicort®/budesonide
- Wrong device(s) being supplied – for example, Evohaler®/Accuhaler, Spiriva® Handihaler®/Respimat®

The four tables contained in this resource list the brands and types of devices available for generic drug(s) commonly found in inhalers:

- **Table 1: Bronchodilators**
- **Table 2: Corticosteroids**
- **Table 3: Combined corticosteroid with bronchodilator**
- **Table 4: Compound bronchodilator preparations**

The new NPA "[Managing COPD in community pharmacy](#)" resource pack can be used alongside this resource for a better understanding on the difference between the inhalers/ devices and how they should be used.

The licensed indications for inhalers vary and some may only be licensed for patients over a particular age – individual Summaries of Product Characteristics (SPCs) should be referred to when dispensing an inhaler on a prescription to ensure that it is licensed for the patient's age and indication. For example, AirFluSal® Forspiro® (salmeterol 50mcg /fluticasone 500mcg) is only licensed for use in adults aged 18 years of age and older.

### Table Headings

The table headings below have been selected based on the listings on the NHS [Dictionary of Medicines and Devices Browser](#) (dm+d). The unique code for each drug/device created by dm+d is the same as that used by prescribing and pharmacy systems when identifying products – this ensures compatibility between the systems. This is particularly important due to an increase in electronic prescribing. Should your pharmacy system display an error message when dispensing an electronic prescription, or when the product prescribed cannot be identified, the system supplier helpdesk should be contacted to report this. This occurs where the particular drug/device is not mapped with the dm + d code on the pharmacy system.

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**Table 1: Bronchodilators**

Active ingredients and strengths	CFC free	Dry powder	Breath actuated CFC free	Inhalation powder capsules/ cartridge with device	Inhalation powder capsules	Solution for inhalation cartridge with device
Salbutamol 100mcg	Ventolin® Evohaler®	Easyhaler® Salbutamol	Airomir® Autohaler	x	x	x
	AirSalb		Salamol® Easi-Breathe®			
	Salamol®					
	Airomir®					
Salbutamol 200mcg	x	Easyhaler® Salbutamol	x	x	x	x
		Ventolin® Accuhaler®				
Formoterol 6mcg	x	Oxis® 6 Turbohaler®	x	x	x	x
Formoterol 12mcg	Atimos® Modulite®	Easyhaler® Formoterol	x	Foradil®	x	x
		Oxis® 12 Turbohaler				
Indacaterol 150mcg	x	x	x	Onbrez® Breezhaler®	x	x
Indacaterol 300mcg	x	x	x	Onbrez® Breezhaler®	x	x
Olodaterol 2.5mcg	x	x	x	x	x	Striverdi® Respimat®
Salmeterol (as Xinafoate) 25mcg	Neovent™	x	x	x	x	x
	Soltel					
	Serevent Evohaler®					
	Vertine®					
Salmeterol (as Xinafoate) 50mcg	x	Serevent® Accuhaler®	x	x	x	x
Acclidinium bromide 375mcg	x	Eklira Genuair® 322mcg	x	x	x	x

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Active ingredients and strengths	CFC free	Dry powder	Breath actuated CFC free	Inhalation powder capsules/ cartridge with device	Inhalation powder capsules	Solution for inhalation cartridge with device
Umeclidinium bromide 65mcg	x	Incruse® Ellipta®	x	x	x	x
Ipratropium bromide 20mcg	Atrovent®	x	x	x	x	x
Tiotropium bromide 2.5mcg	x	x	x	x	x	Spiriva® Respimat®
Tiotropium bromide 10mcg	x	x	x	Braltus® 10mcg capsules with Zonda® inhaler	x	x
Tiotropium bromide 18mcg	x	x	x	Spiriva® 18mcg capsules with HandiHaler®	Spiriva® 18mcg capsules	x
Glycopyrronium bromide 55mcg	x	x	x	Seebri® Breezhaler® 44mcg capsules ▼	x	x
Terbutaline Sulfate 500mcg	x	Bricanyl® Turbohaler®	x	x	x	x

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**Table 2: Corticosteroids**

### Brand prescribing of CFC-free beclometasone inhalers

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)/Commission on Human Medicines (CHM) have advised that the two brands Qvar® and Clenil® Modulite® are not interchangeable as Qvar® has extra-fine particles and is approximately twice as potent as Clenil® Modulite®. Therefore, generic prescriptions for CFC-free beclometasone inhalers should be referred back to the prescriber to state the brand required.

Active ingredients and strengths	CFC free	Dry powder	Breath actuated CFC free	Inhalation powder capsules/ cartridge with device	Inhalation powder capsules	Solution for inhalation cartridge with device
Beclometasone 50mcg	Qvar® 50 Aerosol	x	Qvar® Autohaler® 50	x	x	x
	Clenil® Modulite® 50		Qvar® 50 Easi-Breathe®			
Beclometasone 100mcg	Qvar® 100 Aerosol	Asmabec Clickhaler®	Qvar® Autohaler® 100	x	x	x
	Clenil® Modulite® 100	x	Qvar® 100 Easi-Breathe®			
Beclometasone 200mcg	Clenil® Modulite® 200	Easyhaler® Beclometasone	x	x	x	x
Beclometasone 250mcg	Clenil® Modulite® 250	Easyhaler® Beclometasone	x	x	x	x
Budesonide 100mcg	x	Pulmicort® turbohaler®	x	x	x	x
		Easyhaler® Budesonide				
Budesonide 200mcg	x	Pulmicort® turbohaler®	x	Budelin® Novolizer®	x	x
		Easyhaler® Budesonide				
Ciclesonide 80mcg	Alvesco® 80	x	x	x	x	x

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Active ingredients and strengths	CFC free	Dry powder	Breath actuated CFC free	Inhalation powder capsules/ cartridge with device	Inhalation powder capsules	Solution for inhalation cartridge with device
Ciclesonide 160mcg	Alvesco® 160	x	x	x	x	x
Fluticasone Propionate 50mcg	Flixotide® Evohaler®	Flixotide® Accuhaler®	x	x	x	x
Fluticasone Propionate 100mcg	x	Flixotide® Accuhaler®	x	x	x	x
Fluticasone Propionate 125mcg	Flixotide® Evohaler®	x	x	x	x	x
Fluticasone Propionate 250 mcg	Flixotide® Evohaler®	Flixotide® Accuhaler®	x	x	x	x
Fluticasone Propionate 500mcg	x	Flixotide® Accuhaler®	x	x	x	x
Mometasone 200mcg	x	Asmanex® Twisthaler®	x	x	x	x
Mometasone 400mcg	x	Asmanex® Twisthaler®	x	x	x	x

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**Table 3: Combined corticosteroid with bronchodilator**

Active ingredients and strengths	CFC free	Dry powder	Breath actuated CFC free	Inhalation powder capsules/ cartridge with device	Inhalation powder capsules	Solution for inhalation cartridge with device
Formoterol 5mcg / Fluticasone 50mcg	flutiform®	x	x	x	x	x
Formoterol 5mcg / Fluticasone 125mcg	flutiform®	x	x	x	x	x
Formoterol 10mcg / Fluticasone 250mcg	flutiform®	x	x	x	x	x
Formoterol 6mcg / Beclometasone 100mcg	Fostair®	Fostair® NEXThaler®	x	x	x	x
Formoterol 6mcg / Beclometasone 200mcg	Fostair®	Fostair® NEXThaler®	x	x	x	x
Formoterol 6mcg / Budesonide 100mcg	x	Symbicort® Turbohaler®	x	x	x	x
Formoterol 6mcg / Budesonide 200mcg	Symbicort® pressurized inhalation	DuoResp Spiromax®	x	x	x	x
		Symbicort® Turbohaler®				
Formoterol 12mcg / Budesonide 400mcg	x	DuoResp Spiromax®	x	x	x	x
		Symbicort® Turbohaler®				
Salmeterol 25mcg / Fluticasone 50 mcg	Seretide® 50 Evohaler®	x	x	x	x	x

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Active ingredients and strengths	CFC free	Dry powder	Breath actuated CFC free	Inhalation powder capsules/ cartridge with device	Inhalation powder capsules	Solution for inhalation cartridge with device
Salmeterol 25mcg / Fluticasone 125 mcg	Seretide®125 Evohaler®	x	x	x	x	x
	Sirdupla™					
	Sereflo					
Salmeterol 25mcg / Fluticasone 250 mcg	Seretide®250 Evohaler®	x	x	x	x	x
	Sirdupla™					
	Sereflo					
Salmeterol 50mcg / Fluticasone 100 mcg	x	Seretide® 100 Accuhaler®	x	x	x	x
Salmeterol 50mcg / Fluticasone 250 mcg	x	Seretide® 250 Accuhaler®	x	x	x	x
Salmeterol 50mcg/ Fluticasone 500 mcg	x	Seretide® 500 Accuhaler®	x	x	x	x
		AirFluSal® Forspiro®				
Vilanterol 22mcg / Fluticasone 92mcg	x	Relvar® Ellipta® ▼	x	x	x	x
Vilanterol 22mcg / Fluticasone 184mcg	x	Relvar® Ellipta® ▼	x	x	x	x

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**Table 4. Compound bronchodilator preparations**

Active ingredients	CFC free	Dry powder	Breath actuated CFC free	Inhalation powder capsules/ cartridge with device	Inhalation powder capsules	Solution for inhalation cartridge with device
Acclidinium bromide 396mcg / Formoterol 11.8mcg	x	Duaklir Genuair <sup>®</sup>	x	x	x	x
Glycopyrronium bromide 54mcg / Indacaterol 85mcg	x	x	x	Ultibro <sup>®</sup> ▼ Breezhaler <sup>®</sup>	x	x
Tiotropium bromide 2.5mcg / Olodaterol 2.5mcg	Spiolto <sup>®</sup> Respimat <sup>®</sup>	x	x	x	x	x
Umeclidinium bromide 65mcg / Vilanterol 22mcg	x	Anoro <sup>®</sup> Ellipta <sup>®</sup> ▼	x	x	x	x

**Disclaimer:** The information published is, to the best of our knowledge, correct at the time of publication. However, no responsibility will be accepted for any consequences of decisions made using this information



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## NPA Pharmacy Services resources

- Medication Safety Officer (MSO) report (July – September 2016):  
<https://www.npa.co.uk/news-and-events/news-item/mso-report-july-september-2016/>  
Managing COPD in community pharmacy:  
<https://www.npa.co.uk/information-and-guidance/managing-copd-community-pharmacy/>
- NPA Pharmacy Services factsheet:  
[“Community pharmacy funding cuts 2016/17: final package \(Asthma reviews\)”](#)

## References

- Flutiform website:  
<http://www.flutiform.com/>
- Kent Pharmaceuticals website:  
<http://www.kentpharm.co.uk/respiratory.html>
- Mylan Product Ltd website:  
<http://sirdupla.mylan.co.uk/en/for-healthcare-professionals?userstate=phc>
- NICE BNF March 2017: NHS Evidence  
<https://www.evidence.nhs.uk/formulary/bnf/current>
- NHS Dictionary of Medicines and Devices browser:  
<http://dmd.medicines.org.uk/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=1>
- PSNC website:  
<https://psnc.org.uk/>
- Summary of Product Characteristics on eMC:  
<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/>
- Summary of Product Characteristics on Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA):  
<http://www.mhra.gov.uk/spc-pil/>
- Teva UK Ltd website:  
<http://www.tevauk.com/p/salbutamol-183>