



**MEDICINE TO TREAT: CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE**

Ipratropium

**1. What is the medicine used for?**

Ipratropium is used in the treatment of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). COPD is a long term lung disease that causes shortness of breath and coughing. Ipratropium works by opening up the airways to make breathing easier.

**2. How should I use the medicine?**

- Use Ipratropium inhaler daily to control your condition.
- Do not stop using the Ipratropium inhaler even when you feel well.
- If you miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, take only the usual dose. Do not double your dose or use extra medicine to make up for the missed dose.
- Please refer to the Ipratropium inhaler's patient information leaflet to learn how to use the inhaler.

**3. What are the possible side effects of the medicine?**

Common side effects of ipratropium include:

- Headache
- Dizziness
- Dry Mouth
- Cough / Throat irritation

**4. How do I know if I am allergic to this medicine?**

The symptoms of a drug allergy include one or more of the following:

- Swollen face/eyes/lips
- Difficulty in breathing
- Itchy skin rashes over your whole body

If you experience any of these symptoms, you should stop your medicine immediately and see your doctor.

## **5. What precautions should I follow when using the medicine?**

Inform your doctor if you have any of the following medical conditions before starting on this medicine:

- Glaucoma (a type of eye condition linked to increased pressure in the eye)
- Prostate problems
- Myasthenia gravis (a type of illness with muscle weakness)
- Cystic Fibrosis (a type of illness in which thick mucus build up in the lungs and digestive system)

## **6. How should I store the medicine?**

- Keep your inhaler in a cool and dry place, away from direct sunlight.
- Keep the inhaler out of reach of children.
- Throw away all expired inhalers.

This leaflet answers some common questions about this medicine. It does not contain all the available information. It also does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist