



Client Information Leaflet

Keep this leaflet safe, as you may need to refer to it again. Please ask your vet if you have any further questions. This medicine has been prescribed for your horse ONLY. Do not take it yourself or give it to another person or any other animal; it may harm them even if their symptoms appear to be the same and could result in inadvertent contravention of Horse Passport legislation.

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Salbutamol or Salmeterol Metered Dose Inhalers

These medicines are not licensed for use in the horse or donkey. They have a number of different trade names. They are being used under the prescribing cascade.

What are salbutamol and salmeterol metered dose inhalers?

Salbutamol and salmeterol are drugs that relax and open the lower airways. The metered dose inhalers provide a set quantity of drug in each actuation.

Why has my horse been prescribed inhaled clenbuterol?

These medications are used via an inhaler to deposit them in the lower airways in horses that have airways that are constricted as a result of equine asthma or other respiratory diseases. This improves breathing and allows more oxygen to enter the bloodstream.

Salbutamol/salmeterol may be used to open the airways prior to the administration of other medications such as steroids.

How is the medication administered?

Salbutamol and salmeterol are administered via a metered dose inhaler. You should follow the instructions on using these devices carefully in order to ensure that the medication is effective.

Can my horse have inhaled salbutamol or salmeterol along with other medicines?

Salbutamol and salmeterol are frequently used alongside other medications in the treatment of equine asthma. However, these drugs can have interactions with other medicines so you must inform your veterinary surgeon if you are administering any other medications.

What should I do if I run out of medication?

Contact your veterinary surgeon (ideally before you run out of medicine) to check if further treatment is required. You must check the number of "puffs" you administer and replace the device when you use the number of "puffs" the device contains. The device will continue to make a noise after the drug has all been expelled.

If my horse is not improving, what should I do?

If you do not feel that your horse's breathing is improving, then you should contact your veterinary surgeon who will review whether this is the correct medication for your horse.

What are the possible side-effects of salbutamol or salmeterol in my horse?

When this medicine is given via inhalation the risk of side-effects is very low, but these drugs can cause negative effects on heart and lung function. If you have any concerns, then you should contact your veterinary surgeon.

What should I do if a person accidentally takes this medicine?

If a person accidentally takes this medicine, you should contact NHS direct (telephone 111) or take the person to a local hospital taking this leaflet and the medication with you.

How should I store and handle salbutamol and salmeterol inhalers?

This medication should be stored in a cool, dry space away from direct sunlight.

What should I do if I accidentally overdose my horse?

If you are concerned that you have administered an overdose, then you should contact your veterinary surgeon.

What should I do if I miss a dose?

Just restart the medicine and make a note so that you can inform your veterinary surgeon of any missed doses when they re-evaluate your horse. If your horse's breathing deteriorates then you should contact your veterinary surgeon.

If my horse is better, what should I do with the remaining medicine?

If you feel your horse no longer requires the medication, then you should discuss this with your veterinary surgeon. If you have surplus medicine, then your veterinary surgeon may advise that you store it appropriately in case your horse requires it again.

What do I need to record in my horse's passport?

You should record the use of this medication in your horse's passport or sign section IX to permanently exclude the horse from the human food chain.



The prescribing cascade: This medicine is authorised for use in human patients or other animal species and is used by vets under the 'prescribing cascade'. Your vet can explain this in further detail and explain why they are prescribing this drug for your horse. If you do not agree to the use of this medicine in your horse you should discuss this before administration.