

BUDESONIDE/EFORMOTEROL

(Symbicort®)

What does it do?

Budesonide/eformoterol is used to prevent shortness of breath by decreasing inflammation and opening narrowed airways in the lungs.

How should you take it?

Budesonide/eformoterol should be inhaled as directed. The specific instructions for the inhaler device should be followed closely.

What if you miss a dose?

Inhale *budesonide/eformoterol* regularly as directed. Take the missed dose as soon as possible and continue as directed. Do not take two doses at once.

Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines, available without prescription, may alter the effectiveness/interact with *budesonide/eformoterol* including:

pseudoephedrine (contained in cold and flu preparations)

Side effects?

Side effects with *budesonide/eformoterol* that may be noticed include:

Effect

fast or irregular heart beat
breathing difficulties
skin rash, swelling, itching

Recommended action

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} tell your doctor
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} tell your doctor if troublesome
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sore throat, cough, hoarseness
dry mouth, altered taste, stomach upset
restlessness, nervousness, tremor
dizziness, headache, sleep disturbances
muscle cramps, sore mouth / furry tongue

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any other unusual effects that you think might be related to your medication.

Other information:

- Tell your doctor if you have heart, liver, thyroid or eye problems (eg glaucoma); diabetes, osteoporosis or high blood pressure.
- Tell you doctor if you are pregnant or breast-feeding.
- *Budesonide/eformoterol* should not be used instead of “reliever” medicines to treat asthma attacks.
- Rinse mouth well with water after use to prevent thrush and hoarseness.
- Long term use of high dose inhaled steroids may be associated with a range of side effects eg thinning of the bones, decreased resistance to infection, increased blood pressure and diabetes.

<http://intrawebdev/cph/Pharmacy%20PILs/index.htm>

This information leaflet is produced by the Pharmacy and Clinical Pharmacology Departments, and authorised by the Pharmacy PILs Committee (of these departments) at Christchurch Hospital, Canterbury District Health Board. April 2005

**This leaflet contains important information, but not *all* information about this medication.
Discuss any questions with your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.**