

**BUDESONIDE (for Inhalation)**  
(Pulmicort®)

**What does it do?**

*Budesonide* is a steroid used to decrease inflammation in the airways, thereby preventing shortness of breath or asthma attacks.

**How should you take it?**

*Budesonide* should be inhaled as directed. The specific instructions for each inhaler device should be followed closely.

**What if you miss a dose?**

Inhale *budesonide* 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?**

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all other medicines or treatments that you may be taking including vitamins and herbal medicines.

**Side effects?**

Side effects with *budesonide* are usually mild. Some that may be noticed include:

**Effect**

sore mouth/throat, mouth sores

skin rash, swelling, itching  
breathing difficulties, dizziness

hoarseness, cough  
fever, chills, stuffy or runny nose  
headache, fever, muscle aches  
stomach upset, nausea, diarrhoea  
dry mouth, thirst, altered taste  
weight gain

**Recommended action**

} try to inhale your dose via spacer device  
} rinse mouth well after use  
} if symptoms persist, tell your doctor

} tell your doctor  
}

}  
}  
} tell your doctor if troublesome  
}  
}  
}

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 diabetes, glaucoma or cataracts; or are pregnant or breast-feeding.
- *Budesonide* should not be used instead of “reliever” medicines to treat asthma attacks.
- Rinse mouth well with water after use to prevent thrush and hoarseness.

<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. June 2004

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