

# Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

## IPRATROPIUM (for Inhalation)

(Atrovent<sup>®</sup>, Ipra<sup>®</sup>)

(ALSO CONTAINED IN COMBIVENT<sup>®</sup> AND DUOLIN<sup>®</sup> PREPARATIONS)

### What does it do?

*Ipratropium* opens narrowed airways in the lungs relieving shortness of breath.

### How should you take it?

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

### What if you miss a dose?

Take *ipratropium* as directed. Should an occasional dose be missed it need not be inhaled later.

### Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines, available without prescription, may alter the effectiveness/interact with *ipratropium* including: antihistamines (eg Phenergan<sup>®</sup>)  
motion-sickness preparations (eg Sea-legs<sup>®</sup>).

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

### Side effects?

Side effects with *ipratropium* that may be noticed include:

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Recommended action</u>
fast or irregular heart beat	} tell your doctor
nervousness, dizziness	}
nasal stuffiness	}
stomach upset, constipation	} tell your doctor if troublesome
fatigue, headache	}
hoarseness, cough	}

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 eye (eg glaucoma), prostate or bladder problems.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or breast-feeding.
- Tell your doctor if you are allergic to peanuts or soya products as some inhalers contain similar ingredients.

<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.

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**This leaflet contains important information, but not *all* information about this medication.**

**Discuss any questions with your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.**