

### FLUTICASONE/SALMETEROL (Seretide®)

#### What does it do?

*Fluticasone/salmeterol* helps to prevent asthma attacks or breathing problems.

#### How should you use it?

Inhale *fluticasone/salmeterol* as directed. Rinse your mouth after use.

*Fluticasone/salmeterol* only works when used everyday.

If you need quick relief from an asthma attack or breathlessness, use your 'reliever' medicine (eg salbutamol, terbutaline, ipratropium).

#### What if you miss a dose?

Inhale the missed dose as soon as possible and continue as directed.

#### Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines, available without prescription, may interact with *fluticasone/salmeterol* including:

- Cold and flu preparations containing pseudoephedrine (eg Coldrex®) or phenylephrine (eg Demazin Syrup®)

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking including vitamins, 'herbal' products (eg ephedra) or recreational drugs.

#### What side effects might you notice?

Side Effects	Recommended action
Fast or irregular heart beat, chest pain Fever, chills Muscle aches, weakness	Tell your doctor
Tremors Headache, dizziness Restlessness, sleep disturbances Skin flushing	Tell your doctor if troublesome
Dry mouth or throat, hoarse voice, cough Unpleasant taste Small white sores in mouth, furry tongue (thrush)	Use a spacer, where possible. Rinse your mouth after use. If symptoms continue, tell your doctor

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

#### Other information:

- Your doctor may reduce the dose gradually when it is time to stop – do not stop abruptly.
- Tell your doctor if you have heart or thyroid problems, high blood pressure, diabetes, cataracts, osteoporosis, glaucoma or if you have ever had tuberculosis.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breast-feeding.
- Contact your doctor if you become unwell.
- Long term use of *fluticasone/salmeterol* may be associated with a range of side effects such as; round face, altered body shape, altered hair growth, thinning of the bones, decreased resistance to infection, increased blood pressure, slowed rate of growth in children and diabetes – discuss with your doctor.
- The use of inhalers can sometimes make breathing worse. Discuss this with your doctor or pharmacist.