

## RELIEF/RESCUE MEDICATIONS

These medications are **Short-acting Beta Agonist (SABA)** and cause smooth muscle relaxation. Onset of action is 3-5 min. and last approximately 4 hours. All asthma patients should have a form of this medication readily available at all times.

Generic Name	Brand Names	Delivery Methods	Dose	Covered by Medicaid
Albuterol	Ventolin HFA	MDI come w/dose-counter	2 puffs	yes
(nebulized form only)	Proventil HFA	MDI	2 puffs	yes
	Pro-Air HFA	MDI	2 puffs	yes
	XopenexHFA	MDI & Nebulizer Solution	2 puffs	Requires PA
	Maxair	Breath Activated-spacer not needed	2 puffs	yes



## CONTROLLER MEDICATIONS

**I. Inhaled Steroids (ICS)**-given daily to control inflammation in patients with persistent asthma. Always **rinse** and **spit** after use.

Brand Name	Strengths	Delivery Method	Dose	Covered by Medicaid
Flovent HFA	44mcg, 110mcg, 220mcg	MDI	2 puffs twice daily	yes
Pulmicort Flexhaler	90 mcg, 180mcg	DPI	2 puffs twice daily	Requires PA
Pulmicort Respules	0.25mg, 0.5mg, 1mg	Nebulized	1 respule	Requires PA
Asmanex	220mcg	DPI	2 puffs once daily	yes
Q-var	40mcg, 80mcg	MDI	2 puffs twice daily	Requires PA; least expensive



**II. Long-Acting Beta Agonist (LABA)**—Controller medication that relaxes smooth muscle for up to 12 hours but onset of action is 12-30 min. depending on the form of medication used. Individuals using this medication should also be using ICS.

Brand Name	Strengths	Delivery Method	Dose	Covered by Medicaid
Severent	50mcg	DPI	1 puff twice daily	yes
Foradil	12 mcg	DPI, Nebulized solution	1 puff or vial twice daily	yes



**III. Combination Drugs**-Combines varying doses of ICS with set dose of LABA.

Brand Name	Strengths	Delivery Method	Dose	Covered by Medicaid
Advair Diskus (Flovent + Serevent)	100/50, 250/50, 500/50	DPI	1 puff twice daily	yes
Advair HFA (Flovent + Serevent)	45/21, 115/21, 230/21	MDI	2 puffs twice daily	yes
Symbicort (Pulmicort + Foradil)	80/4.5, 160/4.5	MDI	2 puffs twice daily	yes



**IV. Leukotriene Modifiers**-decrease the inflammatory mediators leukotrienes which are similar to histamine but 1000 times greater.

Brand Name	Strengths	Delivery Method	Dose	Covered by Medicaid
Singulair	4mg granules, 4mg chewable tab, 5mg tab, 10mg tab	by mouth	1 at bedtime	yes

\*MDI-meter dose inhaler (should always be used with a spacer)

\*DPI-dry powder inhaler