

## ALBUTEROL (Ventolin or Proventil)

### **ACTION: Bronchodilator (beta2 adrenergic agonist)**

- Albuterol is a sympathomimetic that is selective for beta-2 adrenergic receptors resulting in prompt bronchodilation.
- Albuterol also reduces serum potassium levels through stimulation of beta-2 adrenergic receptors.

### **INDICATIONS:**

- Reversible bronchospasm due to asthma or COPD

### **CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

- Tachydysrhythmias.
- Known hypersensitivity to the drug.
- Use cautiously in elderly patients and patients with cardiovascular disease.

### **POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS:**

- Tachydysrhythmias and palpitations
- Anxiety and nervousness
- Nausea and vomiting
- Dizziness
- Headache

### **ADULT DOSE/ROUTE:**

⇒ Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI)

- Mild Distress: 4 puffs (wait 1 minute between puffs), may repeat every 5 minutes as needed.
- Moderate Distress: 6 puffs (wait 1 minute between puffs), then 2 puffs (wait 1 minute between puffs) every 5 minutes as needed.

⇒ 5 mg/6mlNS via nebulizer over 5 to 15 min. May repeat x 1 if no relief from symptoms.

### **PEDIATRIC DOSE/ROUTE:**

⇒ Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI)

- Mild to Moderate Distress: 2-3 puffs (wait 1 minute between puffs), may repeat every 5 minutes as needed.

⇒ 2.5 mg/3 ml NS via nebulizer over 5 to 15 min. May repeat x 1 if no relief from symptoms.

### **NOTES:**

- When using an MDI, a spacer should be utilized when available to increase efficacy.
- Use mask nebulizer if patient is unable to use hand-held nebulizer.
- Use in line bag valve mask to deliver albuterol if inadequate tidal volume to ensure good administration with a nebulizer.
- Albuterol may be administered as indicated during the use of CPAP.