Symbicort[®] Turbohaler[®]

Patient User Guide

When I loaded the Turbohaler, I'm not sure I heard the click. If I turn and click the inhaler a second time, will I end up taking 2 doses by mistake?

No. The design of the Symbicort Turbohaler makes it impossible to load or take more than one dose at a time.



Click

Do I need to hold my breath after taking my Symbicort Turbohaler?

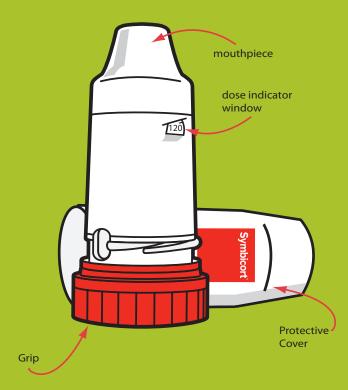
No. The Symbicort Turbohaler is effective at delivering the medicine directly into your lungs and there is no need to hold your breath. Further information is available in the patient information leaflet in your Symbicort pack. Ask your Doctor, Nurse or Pharmacist if you have other questions on your Turbohaler.

Legal Category: Prescription Only Medicine (POM). Marketing Authorisation Number: MA 046/00901-3. Marketing Authorisation Holder: AstraZeneca AB, Gartunavagen, S-151 85, Sodertalje, Sweden. Further information available on request from: Associated Drug Company Ltd., Triq I-Esportaturi, Mriehel, Birkirkara BKR 3000, Malta. Telephone: (+356) 22778000. Symbicort and Turbohaler are Trade Marks of the AstraZeneca group of companies. URN: 12/0122. Date of Preparation: April 2016.

Suspected adverse reactions and medication errors should be reported. Report forms can be downloaded from www.medicinesauthority.gov.mt/adrportal and send by post or email: ADR reporting/203, level 3, Rue D'Argens, Gzira GZR 1368, Malta. Suspected adverse reactions and medication errors should also be reported to Associated Drug Company Limited on +356 22778000.



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Patient Instruction Guide



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Frequently asked questions

To use your Turbohaler properly, just follow these simple steps:



Unscrew and lift off the cover. Hold your Turbohaler upright with the red grip at the bottom.



Now close your lips over the mouthpiece. Do not breathe out through the mouthpiece. Inhale as deeply and strongly as you can. You may not feel or taste the medication.

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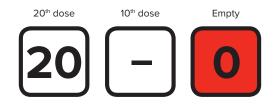
Turn the red grip as far as it will go in one direction, then you must turn it back again as far as it will go in the opposite direction. The click you hear is part of the loading process. You only need to perform this step twice the first time you use the Turbohaler.



Remove your Turbohaler from your mouth and **breathe out gently.** There is no need to hold your breath. Repeat this process from Step 1 to Step 5 if more than one dose has been prescribed.

How do I know when it's time for a new Symbicort Turbohaler?

Symbicort Turbohaler has a dose counter which shows how many doses are left in the Turbohaler. When you see a red box appear in the dose counter, you have 20 doses left. The red box is a reminder for you to get a new prescription. When the dose counter fills completely red and reads 0 your Turbohaler is empty needs to be replaced. Even when empty you will still hear a shaking sound. This is a drying agent to keep your inhaler dry and it is not the medicine.



I don't understand the dose indicator and cannot see it moving?

The dose indicator tells you approximately how many doses are left in the Turbohaler. The dose indicator moves (counts down) very slightly every time you load a dose; the distance moved is hard to see for an individual dose. You should be able to see that the indicator has advanced after 5 or so doses.

I can't feel or taste Symbicort when I take it. How do I know I have received my full dose?

The amount of medication that comes out of your Turbohaler is tiny, so it's normal not to feel or taste the medication. When you inhale, the medication is taken into your lungs by your breath. You should start to breathe more easily within a few minutes.



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Replace the cover tightly after use. Rinse your mouth with water after your dose and spit it out.



Breathe out (gently as far as comfortable). Do not chew or bite the mouthpiece.