



# Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

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Title: **Medication Protocol:  
Albuterol**

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## ALBUTEROL (Medication Protocol)

### EMT PROVIDERS

**EMT MAY ASSIST PATIENTS WITH THEIR METER DOSE INHALERS UNDER THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:**

- The medication is prescribe to the patient
- The medication is not expired
- The patient has symptoms that indicate the use of this medication and there are no contraindications
- The patient has not exceeded dose and the EMT will deliver the proper dose via the proper route
- **YOU HAVE RECEIVED VOICE AUTHORIZATION AS STATED BELOW**

### ADVANCED EMT/EMT-INTERMEDIATE PROVIDERS

**STANDING ORDER FOR FIRST TREATMENT**

### PARAMEDIC PROVIDERS

**STANDING ORDER**

**CLASS:** Sympathomimetic, bronchodilator,  $\beta_2$ -agonist

**PHARMACOLOGY/  
ACTIONS:** Albuterol is a sympathomimetic that is selective for  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic receptors. It relaxes smooth muscles of the bronchial tree and peripheral vasculature by stimulating adrenergic receptors of the sympathetic nervous system.

**ONSET/DURATION:** Onset: 5 - 15 min / Duration: 3 - 4 hrs

**USE IN FIELD/  
INDICATIONS:** Relief of bronchospasm in patients with reversible obstructive airway disease

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Hypersensitivity, cardiac dysrhythmias associated with tachycardia

**SIDE EFFECTS:** Restlessness, apprehension, dizziness, palpitations, tachycardia, dysrhythmias

**DRUG INTERACTIONS:** Other sympathomimetics may exacerbate adverse cardio vascular effects. Antidepressants may potentiate effects on the vasculature (vasodilation).  $\beta$ -blockers may antagonize albuterol. May potentiate diuretic-induced hypokalemia

**ROUTE:** Inhalation

<b>DOSAGE:</b>	<b>ADULT</b>	<b>PEDIATRIC (&lt;45 kg)</b>
	MDI: 1-2 inhalations (90-180 mcg) q 4-5 hr; max 12 inhalations/day. Use spacer if available.	MDI: 1-2 inhalations (90-180 mcg) q 4-5 hr; max 12 inhalations/day. Mask and spacer may be used.
	Nebulizer: 2.5 mg (0.5 mL of 0.5% solution) diluted to 3 mL with 0.9% NS (0.083% solution); administer over 5-15 min; may be repeated q 20 min X 3	Nebulizer: 2.5 mg (0.5 mL of 0.5% solution) diluted to 3 mL with 0.9% NS (0.083% solution); administer over 5-15 min; may be repeated q 20 min X 3
	Note: In setting of severe asthma exacerbations, 4 inhalations or continuous nebulized Albuterol may be indicated.	Note: In setting of severe asthma exacerbations, 4 inhalations or continuous nebulized Albuterol may be indicated.

**PREGNANCY SAFETY:** Category C – give only if potential benefits justifies risk to fetus

**COMMENTS:** Consider use in combination with Ipratropium (Atrovent).  
May precipitate angina pectoris and dysrhythmias.  
Use caution in patients with diabetes mellitus, hyperthyroidism, prostatic hypertrophy, seizure disorder, or cardiovascular disorders.  
Spacer use is desirable with metered-dose inhalers as it will increase drug delivery.