

**Able Spacer with medium mask** (Clement Clarke International Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £7.16 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**Able Spacer with small mask** (Clement Clarke International Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £7.16 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**AEROCHAMBER PLUS**®

Medium-volume device. For use with all pressurised (aerosol) inhalers.

**AeroChamber Plus** (Trudell Medical UK Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £4.99 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**AeroChamber Plus with adult mask** (Trudell Medical UK Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £8.33 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**AeroChamber Plus with child mask** (Trudell Medical UK Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £8.33 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**AeroChamber Plus with infant mask** (Trudell Medical UK Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £8.33 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**BABYHALER**®

For paediatric use with *Flixotide*®, and *Ventolin*® inhalers.

● **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION**

Not available for NHS prescription.

**Babyhaler** (GlaxoSmithKline UK Ltd)  
1 device • No NHS indicative price available • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**HALERAID**®

Device to place over pressurised (aerosol) inhalers to aid when strength in hands is impaired (e.g. in arthritis). For use with *Flixotide*®, *Seretide*®, *Serevent*®, and *Ventolin*® inhalers.

● **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION**

Not available for NHS prescription.

**Haleraid-120** (GlaxoSmithKline UK Ltd)  
1 device • No NHS indicative price available • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**Haleraid-200** (GlaxoSmithKline UK Ltd)  
1 device • No NHS indicative price available • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**OPTICHAMBER**®

For use with all pressurised (aerosol) inhalers.

**OptiChamber** (Respironics (UK) Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £4.28 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**OPTICHAMBER**® **DIAMOND**

For use with all pressurised (aerosol) inhalers.

**OptiChamber Diamond** (Respironics (UK) Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £4.49 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**OptiChamber Diamond with large LiteTouch mask 5 years-adult** (Respironics (UK) Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £7.49 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**OptiChamber Diamond with medium LiteTouch mask 1-5 years** (Respironics (UK) Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £7.49 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**OptiChamber Diamond with small LiteTouch mask 0-18 months** (Respironics (UK) Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £7.49 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**POCKET CHAMBER**®

Small volume device. For use with all pressurised (aerosol) inhalers.

**Pocket Chamber** (nSpiire Health Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £4.18 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**Pocket Chamber with adult mask** (nSpiire Health Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £9.75 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**Pocket Chamber with child mask** (nSpiire Health Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £9.75 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**Pocket Chamber with infant mask** (nSpiire Health Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £9.75 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**Pocket Chamber with teenager mask** (nSpiire Health Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £9.75 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**SPACE CHAMBER PLUS**®

For use with all pressurised (aerosol) inhalers.

**Space Chamber Plus** (Medical Developments International Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £4.26 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**Space Chamber Plus with large mask** (Medical Developments International Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £6.98 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**Space Chamber Plus with medium mask** (Medical Developments International Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £6.98 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**Space Chamber Plus with small mask** (Medical Developments International Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £6.98 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**VOLUMATIC**®

Large-volume device. For use with *Clenil Modulite*®, *Flixotide*®, *Seretide*®, *Serevent*®, and *Ventolin*® inhalers.

**Volumatic** (GlaxoSmithKline UK Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £3.88 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**Volumatic with paediatric mask** (GlaxoSmithKline UK Ltd)  
1 device • NHS indicative price = £6.83 • Drug Tariff (Part IXa)

**VORTEX**®

Medium-volume device. For use with all pressurised (aerosol) inhalers.

## 2 Allergic conditions

### Antihistamines, allergen immunotherapy and allergic emergencies

28-Feb-2020

#### Antihistamines

All antihistamines are of potential value in the treatment of nasal allergies, particularly seasonal allergic rhinitis (hayfever), and they may be of some value in vasomotor rhinitis. They reduce rhinorrhoea and sneezing but are usually less effective for nasal congestion. Antihistamines are used topically in the eye, in the nose, and on the skin.

Oral antihistamines are also of some value in preventing urticaria and are used to treat urticarial rashes, pruritus, and insect bites and stings; they are also used in drug allergies. Injections of chlorphenamine maleate p. 297 or promethazine hydrochloride p. 301 are used as an adjunct to adrenaline/epinephrine p. 236 in the emergency treatment of anaphylaxis and angioedema. Antihistamines (including cinnarizine p. 457, cyclizine p. 449, and promethazine teoclate p. 458) may also have a role in nausea and vomiting. Buclizine is included as an anti-emetic in a preparation for migraine. Antihistamines may also have a role in occasional insomnia.

All older antihistamines cause sedation but alimemazine tartrate p. 297 and **promethazine** may be more sedating whereas chlorphenamine maleate and cyclizine may be less so. This sedating activity is sometimes used to manage the pruritus associated with some allergies. There is little evidence that any one of the older, 'sedating' antihistamines is superior to another and patients vary widely in their response.

Non-sedating antihistamines such as acrivastine p. 293, bilastine p. 293, cetirizine hydrochloride p. 294, desloratadine p. 294 (an active metabolite of loratadine p. 296), fexofenadine hydrochloride p. 295 (an active metabolite of terfenadine), levocetirizine hydrochloride p. 295 (an isomer of cetirizine hydrochloride), loratadine and mizolastine p. 296 cause less sedation and psychomotor impairment than the older antihistamines because they penetrate the blood brain barrier only to a slight extent.

#### Considerations in the elderly

The use of first-generation antihistamines in elderly patients is potentially inappropriate (STOPP criteria) as safer, less toxic antihistamines are widely available.

For further information, see *STOPP/START criteria* in Prescribing in the elderly p. 33.