

Paediatric dose

0.5 mg/kg daily in 3–4 doses, increasing gradually to 2 mg/kg daily.

beclomethasone

inhaled or nasal corticosteroid

Cautionary advisory labels: 14**Notes****Oral inhalation**

- Inquire about an asthma management plan.
- A preventive medication intended for continual and regular use, not for use during acute asthma attacks.
- Use after beta₂ agonist if being used concurrently.
- Check inhaler technique and compliance.
- Rinse mouth with water after use to decrease systemic absorption and minimise risk of oral thrush.
- If asthma is well controlled, try a dose reduction of 25% every 3 months.
- Cover eyes during nebulisation because of possible leakage from mask.
- Systemic effects may include bone density loss, glaucoma, cataract, skin thinning, impaired growth, adrenal suppression.

Pregnancy: B3. Inhaled and nasal corticosteroids safe to use. Women planning a pregnancy should switch to budesonide.

Breastfeeding: May be used.

Dosage range**Adult dose**

Oral inhalation: 50–200 micrograms twice daily; severe asthma: up to 400 micrograms twice daily. Consider specialist referral for patients who require >800 micrograms daily.

Nasal spray: Two sprays into each nostril twice daily; reduce to one spray into each nostril twice daily when symptoms controlled.

Paediatric dose

Monitor development and growth carefully in children on long-term therapy.

Oral inhalation: >5 years, 50 micrograms twice daily; up to 400 micrograms daily in severe persistent asthma.

Nasal spray: 3–12 years, one spray into each nostril twice daily; reduce to one spray into each nostril daily when symptoms controlled.

benzathine penicillin

beta-lactamase labile penicillin

Notes

- May cause diarrhoea.
- If a skin rash occurs, seek medical advice.
- Ask about any previous reaction to penicillin.

Renal impairment: Caution. Dose adjustment may be necessary.

Pregnancy: A.

Breastfeeding: May be used. Small amounts excreted in breast milk. Monitor for adverse effects (e.g. diarrhoea, thrush) in infant.

Common dosage range

1.8g = 2.4 million units.

Adult dose

IM, 0.9–1.8 g deep IM, single dose, or may be repeated at weekly intervals (e.g. for syphilis, three successive weeks).

Paediatric dose

Prophylaxis, rheumatic fever: IM, 900 mg every 3–4 weeks.

Other indications: See approved Product Information.

benzhexol

anticholinergic, anti-Parkinsonian

Cautionary advisory labels: 1, 9 (long-term regular therapy)

Notes

Changes to urinary system: May induce or aggravate overflow incontinence due to reduced detrusor activity, voiding difficulty, urinary retention or constipation.

Elderly: Confusion, psychoses, constipation, urinary retention, blurred vision, orthostatic hypotension leading to falls and fractures. Counsel about rising slowly and cautiously.

Renal and hepatic impairment: Caution. Monitor clinically.

Pregnancy: B1. Use not recommended.

Breastfeeding: Use with caution, especially in neonatal period. Limited data available. Risk of anticholinergic effects. May suppress lactation.

Common dosage range**Adult dose**

1 mg daily initially, increasing gradually to 5–15 mg daily in 3–4 divided doses.