

How to Use Your Atrovent Inhaler (ipratropium)



What is my prescription?	Special Instructions

What can I expect while I take this medication?

Atrovent is an anticholinergic. It makes it easier to breathe by causing your large airways to open. **Atrovent** will begin working 15-30 minutes after you use your medicine. You can expect less mucus over time.

How and when to prime your Atrovent Inhaler:

Prime inhaler if new or has not been used in 3 days.

Remove cap, and spray two times into the air, away from your face.

How to use your Atrovent:

1. Remove **Atrovent**[®] cap. Place middle or index finger on top of canister and thumb underneath the mouthpiece of the inhaler.

2. Breathe out fully (in preparation to breathe in medication).
3. Put the mouthpiece in your mouth and close your lips around it. Do not block the mouthpiece with your teeth or tongue.
4. Push the top of the canister all the way down one time while breathing in deeply and slowly through your mouth.
5. Hold your breath for 5-10 seconds, and then breathe out.
6. Take your finger off the center of the canister and remove the inhaler from your mouth.
7. If your physician has prescribed more than one dose (puff), wait 30 seconds and repeat above.

How to clean your Atrovent:

Clean 1 time per week after your evening dose to prevent medicine from building up and blocking the spray.

1. Remove the cap.
2. Use a clean, dry swab to clean the small circular opening where the medicine sprays out of the canister.
3. Wipe the inside of the mouthpiece with a clean dry tissue.
4. Put the cap back over the mouthpiece.

How to use a Spacer: (If recommended for use with your inhaler)

1. Remove mouthpiece cap from your inhaler.
2. Attach inhaler to spacer and then remove mouthpiece cap from spacer.
3. Hold spacer with the inhaler canister upright.
4. Breathe out fully (in preparation to breathe in medication).
5. Tilt head back slightly and put spacer to mouth and close lips around the mouthpiece (tongue and teeth should not block the mouthpiece opening).
6. Release medicine into spacer; squeeze down canister **one** time.
7. Breathe the medication slowly and steadily. Continue to breathe in deeply until lungs are full (do not breathe out).

8. Hold your breath for 5-10 seconds, and then breathe out. (Repeat as directed)

To learn more about your health condition visit:

<http://www.med.umich.edu/careguides>

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