

Package leaflet: Information for the user
Pulmicort® Respules® 0.5mg, nebuliser suspension
(budesonide)

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

The name of your medicine is Pulmicort Respules 0.5mg, nebuliser suspension, but will be referred to as Pulmicort Respules or Respules throughout this leaflet.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Pulmicort Respules are and what they are used for
2. What you need to know before you use Pulmicort Respules
3. How to use Pulmicort Respules
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Pulmicort Respules
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Pulmicort Respules are and what they are used for

Pulmicort Respules contain a medicine called budesonide. This belongs to a group of medicines called 'corticosteroids'. It works by reducing and preventing swelling and inflammation in your lungs.

- Pulmicort Respules are used to treat asthma. They are also used to treat croup in infants and children.
- A Respule is a small plastic container that contains a liquid. The liquid is put into a machine called a nebuliser. This machine turns the medicine into a fine mist which you breathe in through a face mask or mouthpiece.

2. What you need to know before you use Pulmicort Respules

Do not use Pulmicort Respules:

- If you are allergic to budesonide or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Pulmicort Respules, tell your doctor or pharmacist if:

- You have a lung infection.
- You have a cold or chest infection.
- You have liver problems.

Contact your doctor if you experience blurred vision or other visual disturbances.

Other medicines and Pulmicort Respules

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines. This includes medicines that you buy without a prescription and herbal medicines. This is because Pulmicort Respules can affect the way some medicines work and some medicines can have an effect on Pulmicort Respules and your doctor may wish to monitor you carefully.

In particular, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Steroid medicines.
- Medicines to treat fungal infections (such as itraconazole and ketoconazole).
- HIV medicines (such as ritonavir or cobicistat-containing products).

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

- If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before using this medicine - do not use Pulmicort Respules unless your doctor tells you to.
- If you get pregnant while using Pulmicort Respules, do not stop using Pulmicort Respules but talk to your doctor immediately.

Driving and using machines

Pulmicort Respules are not likely to affect you being able to drive or use any tools or machines.

3. How to use Pulmicort Respules

- Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.
- The solution in a Respule must be put into a nebuliser and made into a fine mist before it can be breathed in. It is then inhaled through a face mask or mouthpiece. Instructions for using your nebuliser are given after the section 'How much to take'.

Note: Do not use an ultrasonic nebuliser with Pulmicort Respules.

- Your asthma may improve within 2 days. However, it can take up to 4 weeks for the medicine to have its full effect. It is important to use Pulmicort Respules every day, even if you have no asthma symptoms at the time.

How much to take

Asthma

Your doctor will tell you how much to take. This will depend on how severe your asthma is.

Your doctor may lower your dose as your asthma improves.

- The recommended starting dose in adults and children over 12 years is 1mg to 2mg (milligrams), twice a day.
- Children under 12 years are usually prescribed a lower dose of 0.5mg to 1mg, twice a day.

Croup

The recommended dose for infants and children is 2mg a day. This may be given all in one go, or 1mg may be given followed by another 1mg 30 minutes later.

Instructions for using Pulmicort Respules

1. Break off a Respule from the strip. Leave the rest in the foil envelope.
2. Shake the Respule gently.
3. Hold upright. Twist off the top of the Respule to open.
4. Place the open end of the Respule firmly inside the nebuliser cup. Squeeze slowly to put the liquid in the cup.
5. Throw the empty Respule away. Put the top back on the nebuliser cup.
6. Connect one end of the cup to the face mask or mouthpiece.
7. Connect the other end of the cup to the air pump.
8. Gently shake the cup.
9. Turn on the nebuliser and breathe in the mist calmly and deeply using the face mask or mouthpiece. If you are using a face mask, make sure the face mask fits tightly.
10. You will know when your treatment is complete because the fine mist will stop coming out of your mask or mouthpiece.
11. How long it takes to nebulise all the medicine depends on the type of equipment you use. It will also depend on the amount of medicine to be used.
12. Rinse your mouth with water. Spit out the water. Do not swallow it. If you have used a face mask, wash your face as well.
13. After each use, you must wash the nebuliser cup and mouthpiece (or face mask) in warm soapy water and rinse well. After washing, dry these parts by connecting to the air outlet or the compressor and blow air through them.

Important information about your asthma symptoms

If you feel you are getting breathless or wheezy while using Pulmicort Respules, you should continue to use Pulmicort Respules but go to see your doctor as soon as possible, as you may need additional treatment.

Contact your doctor immediately if:

- Your breathing is getting worse or you often wake up at night with asthma.
- Your chest starts to feel tight in the morning or your chest tightness lasts longer than usual.

These signs could mean that your condition is not being properly controlled and you may need different or additional treatment immediately.

If you use more Pulmicort Respules than you should

It is important that you take your dose as stated on the pharmacist's label or as advised by your doctor. You should not increase or decrease your dose without seeking medical advice. If you use more Pulmicort Respules than you should, contact your doctor or pharmacist for advice.

If you forget to use Pulmicort Respules

If you forget to take a dose, skip the missed dose and take the next dose as usual.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

If either of the following happen to you, stop using Pulmicort Respules and talk to your doctor immediately:

- Swelling of your face, particularly around your mouth (with possible swelling of the lips, tongue, eyes, ears), rash, itching, contact dermatitis (a skin problem), hives and bronchospasm (tightening of the muscles in the airways which causes wheezing). This may mean that you are having an allergic reaction. This happens rarely, affecting less than 1 in 1,000 people.
- Sudden wheezing after inhaling your medicine. This happens very rarely, affecting less than 1 in 10,000 people.

Other possible side effects:

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- Thrush (a fungal infection) in the mouth. This is less likely if you rinse your mouth out with water after using Pulmicort.
- Mild sore throat, coughing and a hoarse voice.
- Pneumonia (infection of the lung) in COPD patients.

Tell your doctor if you have any of the following while taking budesonide, they could be symptoms of a lung infection:

- fever or chills
- increased mucus production, change in mucus colour
- increased cough or increased breathing difficulties.

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- Feeling worried, restless and nervous.
- Depression.
- Trembling and shaking.
- Cataract (clouding of the lens in the eye).
- Muscle cramps.
- Blurred vision.

Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people)

- Rash on the face after using the face mask. You can stop this from happening by washing your face after using the face mask.
- Sleeping problems, feeling over-excited or irritable. These effects are more likely to occur in children.
- Bruising of the skin.
- Loss of voice.
- Hoarse voice (in children).

Inhaled corticosteroids can affect the normal production of steroid hormones in your body, particularly if you use high doses for a long time. The effects include:

- changes in bone mineral density (thinning of the bones).
- glaucoma (increased pressure in the eye).
- a slowing of the rate of growth of children and adolescents (rare). If high doses are given over several years, final height may be reduced by about 1 cm.
- an effect on the adrenal gland (a small gland next to the kidney) (rare).

These effects are much less likely to happen with inhaled corticosteroids than with corticosteroid tablets.

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the **Google Play** or **Apple App Store**. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Pulmicort Respules

- Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not store above 30°C. Do not freeze. Store in an upright position. Store in the original pack in order to protect from light.
- Once a foil envelope has been opened, the Respules inside should be used within 3 months.
Note: It is best to mark the opening date on the foil envelope to help you remember.
- If only 1ml of suspension is used, the remaining suspension is not sterile and should be discarded immediately.
- If the nebulising suspension shows any signs of discoloration, seek the advice of your pharmacist.
- Do not use the Respules after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and pouch labels after 'Exp'. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Remember if your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine, return any unused medicine to your pharmacist for safe disposal. Only keep this medicine if your doctor tells you to.
- Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Pulmicort Respules contains

The active ingredient is budesonide. Each 2ml Respule contains 0.5mg budesonide.

Each ml of nebuliser suspension contains 0.25mg budesonide.

The other ingredients are disodium edetate, sodium chloride, polysorbate 80, citric acid, sodium citrate and water for injections.

What Pulmicort Respules looks like and the contents of the pack

Sterile nebuliser suspension. Clear, colourless liquid in a plastic single dose unit.

Pulmicort Respules are available in packs containing 4 foil pouches with each pouch containing 5 single-dose vials of 2ml.

Each carton contains 20 respules.

Manufactured by: AstraZeneca AB, Forskargatan 18,151 36, Sodertalje, Sweden.

OR

AstraZeneca AB - Kvarnbergagatan 12 - SE-151 85, Sodertalje, Sweden.

Procured from within the EU and repackaged by the Product Licence holder: B&S Healthcare, Unit 4, Bradfield Road, Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 0NU, UK.

Pulmicort® Respules® 0.5mg, nebuliser suspension; PL 18799/2353

Leaflet date: 23.01.2024

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Blind or partially sighted?

Is this leaflet hard to see or read?

Call **0208 515 3763** to obtain the leaflet in a format suitable for you.

Package leaflet: Information for the user

Budesonide single-dose unit 0.5mg, nebuliser suspension

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

The name of your medicine is Budesonide single-dose unit 0.5mg, nebuliser suspension, but will be referred to as Budesonide single-dose units or single-dose units throughout this leaflet.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Budesonide single-dose units are and what they are used for
2. What you need to know before you use Budesonide single-dose units
3. How to use Budesonide single-dose units
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Budesonide single-dose units
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Budesonide single-dose units are and what they are used for

Budesonide single-dose units contain a medicine called budesonide. This belongs to a group of medicines called 'corticosteroids'. It works by reducing and preventing swelling and inflammation in your lungs.

- Budesonide single-dose units are used to treat asthma. They are also used to treat croup in infants and children.
- A single-dose unit is a small plastic container that contains a liquid. The liquid is put into a machine called a nebuliser. This machine turns the medicine into a fine mist which you breathe in through a face mask or mouthpiece.

2. What you need to know before you use Budesonide single-dose units

Do not use Budesonide single-dose units:

- If you are allergic to budesonide or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Budesonide single-dose units, tell your doctor or pharmacist if:

- You have a lung infection.
- You have a cold or chest infection.
- You have liver problems.

Contact your doctor if you experience blurred vision or other visual disturbances.

Other medicines and Budesonide single-dose units

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines. This includes medicines that you buy without a prescription and herbal medicines. This is because Budesonide single-dose units can affect the way some medicines work and some medicines can have an effect on Budesonide single-dose units and your doctor may wish to monitor you carefully.

In particular, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Steroid medicines.
- Medicines to treat fungal infections (such as itraconazole and ketoconazole).
- HIV medicines (such as ritonavir or cobicistat-containing products).

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

- If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before using this medicine - do not use Budesonide single-dose units unless your doctor tells you to.
- If you get pregnant while using Budesonide single-dose units, do not stop using Budesonide single-dose units but talk to your doctor immediately.

Driving and using machines

Budesonide single-dose units are not likely to affect you being able to drive or use any tools or machines.

3. How to use Budesonide single-dose units

- Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.
- The solution in a single-dose unit must be put into a nebuliser and made into a fine mist before it can be breathed in. It is then inhaled through a face mask or mouthpiece. Instructions for using your nebuliser are given after the section 'How much to take'.

Note: Do not use an ultrasonic nebuliser with Budesonide single-dose units.

- Your asthma may improve within 2 days. However, it can take up to 4 weeks for the medicine to have its full effect. It is important to use Budesonide single-dose units every day, even if you have no asthma symptoms at the time.

How much to take

Asthma

Your doctor will tell you how much to take. This will depend on how severe your asthma is.

Your doctor may lower your dose as your asthma improves.

- The recommended starting dose in adults and children over 12 years is 1mg to 2mg (milligrams), twice a day.
- Children under 12 years are usually prescribed a lower dose of 0.5mg to 1mg, twice a day.

Croup

The recommended dose for infants and children is 2mg a day. This may be given all in one go, or 1mg may be given followed by another 1mg 30 minutes later.

Instructions for using Budesonide single-dose units

1. Break off a single-dose unit from the strip. Leave the rest in the foil envelope.
2. Shake the single-dose unit gently.
3. Hold upright. Twist off the top of the single-dose unit to open.
4. Place the open end of the single-dose unit firmly inside the nebuliser cup. Squeeze slowly to put the liquid in the cup.
5. Throw the empty single-dose unit away. Put the top back on the nebuliser cup.
6. Connect one end of the cup to the face mask or mouthpiece.
7. Connect the other end of the cup to the air pump.
8. Gently shake the cup.
9. Turn on the nebuliser and breathe in the mist calmly and deeply using the face mask or mouthpiece. If you are using a face mask, make sure the face mask fits tightly.
10. You will know when your treatment is complete because the fine mist will stop coming out of your mask or mouthpiece.
11. How long it takes to nebulise all the medicine depends on the type of equipment you use. It will also depend on the amount of medicine to be used.
12. Rinse your mouth with water. Spit out the water. Do not swallow it. If you have used a face mask, wash your face as well.
13. After each use, you must wash the nebuliser cup and mouthpiece (or face mask) in warm soapy water and rinse well. After washing, dry these parts by connecting to the air outlet or the compressor and blow air through them.

Important information about your asthma symptoms

If you feel you are getting breathless or wheezy while using Budesonide single-dose units, you should continue to use Budesonide single-dose units but go to see your doctor as soon as possible, as you may need additional treatment.

Contact your doctor immediately if:

- Your breathing is getting worse or you often wake up at night with asthma.
- Your chest starts to feel tight in the morning or your chest tightness lasts longer than usual.

These signs could mean that your condition is not being properly controlled and you may need different or additional treatment immediately.

If you use more Budesonide single-dose units than you should

It is important that you take your dose as stated on the pharmacist's label or as advised by your doctor. You should not increase or decrease your dose without seeking medical advice. If you use more Budesonide single-dose units than you should, contact your doctor or pharmacist for advice.

If you forget to use Budesonide single-dose units

If you forget to take a dose, skip the missed dose and take the next dose as usual.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

If either of the following happen to you, stop using Budesonide single-dose units and talk to your doctor immediately:

- Swelling of your face, particularly around your mouth (with possible swelling of the lips, tongue, eyes, ears), rash, itching, contact dermatitis (a skin problem), hives and bronchospasm (tightening of the muscles in the airways which causes wheezing). This may mean that you are having an allergic reaction. This happens rarely, affecting less than 1 in 1,000 people.
- Sudden wheezing after inhaling your medicine. This happens very rarely, affecting less than 1 in 10,000 people.

Other possible side effects:

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- Thrush (a fungal infection) in the mouth. This is less likely if you rinse your mouth out with water after using Budesonide.
- Mild sore throat, coughing and a hoarse voice.
- Pneumonia (infection of the lung) in COPD patients.

Tell your doctor if you have any of the following while taking budesonide, they could be symptoms of a lung infection:

- fever or chills
- increased mucus production, change in mucus colour
- increased cough or increased breathing difficulties.

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- Feeling worried, restless and nervous.
- Depression.
- Trembling and shaking.
- Cataract (clouding of the lens in the eye).
- Muscle cramps.
- Blurred vision.

Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people)

- Rash on the face after using the face mask. You can stop this from happening by washing your face after using the face mask.
- Sleeping problems, feeling over-excited or irritable. These effects are more likely to occur in children.
- Bruising of the skin.
- Loss of voice.
- Hoarse voice (in children).

Inhaled corticosteroids can affect the normal production of steroid hormones in your body, particularly if you use high doses for a long time. The effects include:

- changes in bone mineral density (thinning of the bones).
- glaucoma (increased pressure in the eye).
- a slowing of the rate of growth of children and adolescents (rare). If high doses are given over several years, final height may be reduced by about 1 cm.
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These effects are much less likely to happen with inhaled corticosteroids than with corticosteroid tablets.

Reporting of side effects

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5. How to store Budesonide single-dose units

- Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not store above 30°C. Do not freeze. Store in an upright position. Store in the original pack in order to protect from light.
- Once a foil envelope has been opened, the single-dose units inside should be used within 3 months.
Note: It is best to mark the opening date on the foil envelope to help you remember.
- If only 1ml of suspension is used, the remaining suspension is not sterile and should be discarded immediately.
- If the nebulising suspension shows any signs of discoloration, seek the advice of your pharmacist.
- Do not use the single-dose units after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and pouch labels after 'Exp'. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Remember if your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine, return any unused medicine to your pharmacist for safe disposal. Only keep this medicine if your doctor tells you to.
- Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Budesonide single-dose units contains

The active ingredient is budesonide. Each 2ml single-dose unit contains 0.5mg budesonide.

Each ml of nebuliser suspension contains 0.25mg budesonide.

The other ingredients are disodium edetate, sodium chloride, polysorbate 80, citric acid, sodium citrate and water for injections.

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Each carton contains 20 single-dose units.

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