

PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER

Serevent™ Evohaler™ 25 micrograms per actuation pressurised inhalation, suspension (Salmeterol)

Your medicine is available using the name Serevent Evohaler 25 micrograms per actuation pressurised inhalation, suspension but will be referred to as Serevent Evohaler throughout this leaflet.

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine.

- 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. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
- If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

In this leaflet:

1. What Serevent Evohaler is and what it is used for
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5. How to store Serevent Evohaler
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1. WHAT SEREVENT EVOHALER IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

- Serevent Evohaler contains the medicine salmeterol. It is a 'long-acting bronchodilator'. It helps the airways in the lungs to stay open. This makes it easier for air to get in and out. The effects are usually felt within 10 to 20 minutes and last for 12 hours or more.
- The doctor has prescribed it to help prevent breathing problems. These could be caused by asthma. Taking Serevent Evohaler regularly will help prevent asthma attacks. This also includes asthma brought on by exercise or that happens only at night.
- Taking Serevent Evohaler regularly will also help prevent breathing problems caused by other chest illnesses such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
- Serevent Evohaler helps to stop breathlessness and wheezing coming on. It does not work once you are breathless or wheezy. If that happens you need to use a fast acting 'reliever' medicine, such as salbutamol.
- Serevent Evohaler is supplied to you in an inhaler. You breathe the medicine directly into your lungs.
- Serevent Evohaler contains norflurane. This is less harmful to the environment than older inhalers. Older inhalers may taste differently to Serevent Evohaler. This will make no difference to how your medicine works.

If you are being treated for asthma, you should always be given both a Serevent Evohaler and a steroid inhaler to use together.

2. BEFORE YOU USE SEREVENT EVOHALER

Do not take Serevent Evohaler if:

You are allergic (hypersensitive) to salmeterol xinafoate, or to the other ingredient norflurane (HFA 134a).

Take special care with Serevent Evohaler

- **If your asthma or breathing gets worse tell your doctor straight away.**
You may find that you feel more wheezy, your chest feels tight more often or you may need to use more of your fast acting 'reliever' medicine. If any of these happen, do not increase your number

of puffs of Serevent Evohaler. Your chest condition may be getting worse and you could become seriously ill. See your doctor as you may need a change in asthma treatment.

- Once your asthma is well controlled your doctor may consider it appropriate to gradually reduce the dose of Serevent Evohaler.
- If you have been prescribed Serevent Evohaler for your asthma, continue to use any other asthma medication you are already taking. These could include a steroid inhaler or steroid tablets. Continue taking the same doses as before, unless your doctor tells you otherwise. Do this even if you feel much better. **Do not stop taking your steroid inhaler (or any steroid tablets) when you start using Serevent Evohaler.**
- Your doctor may want to check your health regularly if you have an overactive thyroid gland, diabetes mellitus (Serevent Evohaler may increase your blood sugar) or heart disease, including an irregular or fast heart beat.

Taking other medicines

- Please tell your doctor if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines. This includes those for asthma or any other medicines obtained without a prescription. This is because Serevent Evohaler may not be suitable to be taken with other medicines.
- Please inform your doctor before using Serevent Evohaler if you are currently being treated for any fungal infections with medicines containing ketoconazole or itraconazole, or if you are being treated for HIV with ritonavir. These medicines may increase the risk of you experiencing side effects with Serevent Evohaler, including irregular heart beats, or may make side-effects worse.
- Beta-Blockers should be avoided when taking Serevent Evohaler, unless your doctor tells you to take them. Beta-blockers, include atenolol, propranolol, sotalol and are mostly used for high blood pressure or other heart conditions. Please tell your doctor if you are taking beta-blockers or have recently been prescribed beta-blockers as they may reduce or abolish the effects of salmeterol.
- Serevent Evohaler can reduce the amount of potassium in your blood. If this happens you may notice an uneven heart beat, muscle weakness or cramp. This is more likely to happen if you take Serevent Evohaler with some medicines used to treat high blood pressure (diuretics) and other medicines used to treat breathing problems such as theophylline, or steroids. Your doctor may ask for you to have blood tests to check the amount of potassium in your blood. If you have any concerns discuss them with your doctor.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

If you are pregnant, planning to get pregnant, or breast-feeding, talk to your doctor before taking Serevent Evohaler. Your doctor will assess whether you can take Serevent Evohaler during this time.

Driving and using machines

The possible side effects associated with Serevent Evohaler are unlikely to affect your ability to drive or use machines.

3. HOW TO USE SEREVENT EVOHALER

- **If you are being treated for asthma, you should always be given both a Serevent Evohaler and a steroid inhaler to use together.**
- Use Serevent Evohaler every day, until your doctor advises you to stop.
- You will start to feel your medicine working within the first day of use.

Serevent Evohaler is for inhalation by mouth only.

Adults and adolescents aged 12 years and older with Asthma

- The usual starting dose is 2 puffs twice a day.
- For people with more severe asthma, your doctor may increase your dose to 4 puffs twice a day.

Children with Asthma

- In children aged 4 to 12 the usual dose is 2 puffs twice a day.
- Serevent Evohaler is not recommended for use in children below 4 years of age.

Adults with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD, including bronchitis and emphysema)

- The usual starting dose is 2 puffs twice a day.

Not applicable for children and adolescents.

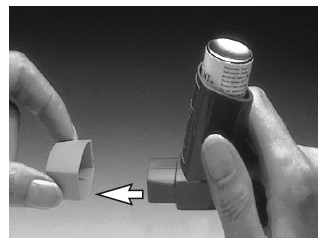
Instructions for use

Your doctor, nurse or pharmacist should show you how to use your inhaler. They should check how you use it from time to time. Not using the Serevent Evohaler properly or as prescribed, may mean that the medicine will not help your asthma or COPD as it should.

The medicine is contained in a pressurised canister in a plastic casing with a mouthpiece.

Testing your inhaler

1. When using your inhaler for the first time, test that it is working. Remove the mouthpiece cover by gently squeezing the sides with your thumb and forefinger and pull apart.
2. To make sure that it works, shake it well, point the mouthpiece away from you and press the canister to release a puff into the air. If you have not used the inhaler for a week or more, release one puff of medicine into the air.



Using your inhaler

It is important to start to breathe in as slowly as possible just before using your inhaler.

1. Stand or sit upright when using your inhaler.
2. Remove the mouthpiece cover (as shown in the first picture). Check inside and outside to make sure that the mouthpiece is clean and free of objects.
3. Shake the inhaler 4 or 5 times to ensure that any loose objects are removed and that the contents of the inhaler are evenly mixed.



4. Hold the inhaler upright with your thumb on the base, below the mouthpiece. Breathe out as far as is comfortable.



5. Place the mouthpiece in your mouth between your teeth. Close your lips around it. Do not bite.



6. Breathe in through your mouth. Just after starting to breathe in, press down on the top of the canister to release a puff of medicine. Do this while still breathing in steadily and deeply.

7. Hold your breath, take the inhaler from your mouth and your finger from the top of the inhaler. Continue holding your breath for a few seconds, or as long as is comfortable.



8. Wait about half a minute between taking each puff of medicine and then repeat steps 3 to 7.
9. After use always replace the mouthpiece cover immediately to keep out dust. Replace the cover by firmly pushing and snapping the cap into position.

Practise in front of a mirror for the first few times. If you see a 'mist' coming from the top of your inhaler or the sides of your mouth you should start again

If you or your child find it difficult to use the Evohaler, a Volumatic spacer device may improve the treatment with Serevent Evohaler. Talk to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

Cleaning your inhaler

To stop your inhaler blocking up, it is important to clean it at least once a week.

To clean your inhaler:

- Remove the mouthpiece cover.
- Do not remove the metal canister from the plastic casing at any time.
- Wipe the inside and outside of the mouthpiece and the plastic casing with a dry cloth or tissue.
- Replace the mouthpiece cover.

Do not put the metal canister in water.

If you use more Serevent Evohaler than you should

It is important to use the inhaler as instructed. If you accidentally take a larger dose than recommended, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. You may notice your heart beating faster than usual and that you feel shaky and/or dizzy. You may also have a headache, muscle weakness and aching joints.

If you forget to use Serevent Evohaler

If you forget to use your inhaler, take your next dose when it is due. Do not take a double dose to replace the one you forgot.

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

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines, Serevent Evohaler can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. To reduce the chances of side effects, your doctor will prescribe the lowest dose of Serevent Evohaler to control your asthma or COPD. These are the side effects reported by people taking Serevent Evohaler.

Allergic reactions: you may notice your breathing suddenly gets worse after using Serevent Evohaler. You may be very wheezy and cough. You may also notice itching and swelling (usually of the face, lips, tongue or throat). If you get these effects or they happen suddenly after using Serevent Evohaler, **tell your doctor straight away.** Allergic reactions to Serevent Evohaler are very rare (they affect less than 1 person in 10,000).

Other side effects are listed below:

Common (affects less than 1 person in 10):

- Muscle cramps
- Feeling shaky; fast or uneven heartbeat (palpitations), headache; shaking hands (tremor). Tremors are more likely if you are taking more than two puffs twice daily. These side effects do not last long and happen less as treatment with Serevent Evohaler continues.

Uncommon (affects less than 1 person in 100):

- Rash
- Very fast heart rate (tachycardia). This is more likely to happen if you are taking more than two puffs twice daily.
- Feeling nervous.

Rare (affects less than 1 person in 1,000):

- Feeling dizzy
- Being unable to sleep or finding sleep difficult
- A reduction in the amount of potassium in your blood (you may get an uneven heart beat, muscle weakness, cramp).

Very rare (affects less than 1 person in 10,000):

- **Breathing difficulties or wheezing that gets worse straight after taking Serevent Evohaler.** If this happens **stop using your Serevent Evohaler.** Use your fast-acting 'reliever' inhaler to help your breathing and **tell your doctor straight away.**
- Uneven heartbeat or your heart gives an extra beat (arrhythmias). If this happens do not stop using Serevent Evohaler but tell your doctor.
- Increases in the amount of sugar (glucose) in your blood (hyperglycaemia). If you have diabetes, more frequent blood sugar monitoring and possibly adjustment of your usual diabetic treatment may be required.
- Sore mouth or throat
- Feeling sick (nausea)
- Aching, swollen joints, or chest pain.

If any of the side effects become serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

5. HOW TO STORE SEREVENT EVOHALER

- **Keep out of the sight and reach of children.**
- Straight after use, replace the mouthpiece cover firmly and click it into position. Do not use excessive force.
- Do not store above 30°C.
- The metal canister contains a pressurised liquid. Do not puncture, break or burn it even if you think it is empty.
- Do not use Serevent Evohaler after the expiry date (Exp) which is stated on the label and carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of the month.
- 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.

- If your inhaler appears damaged or shows any other signs of deterioration, please return it to your pharmacist who will advise you further.
- If you have any left-over/unused medicine, please return this to your pharmacist for safe disposal.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

What Serevent Evohaler contains

- Each puff provides 25 micrograms of the active ingredient salmeterol (as salmeterol xinafoate).
- There are 120 puffs in each canister.
- The other ingredient is norflurane (HFA 134a).

What Serevent Evohaler looks like and contents of the pack

Pressurised inhalation, suspension. The pressurised canister contains a white to off white suspension for inhalation.

Manufacturer

Serevent Evohaler is manufactured by:
GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals S.A.
ul. Grunwaldzka 189, 60-322 Poznan, Poland.

Procured from within the EU by the Parallel Product Authorisation holder: Imbat Ltd, Unit L2, North Ring Business Park, Santry, Dublin 9.

The product is repackaged by: Doncaster Pharmaceuticals Group Ltd, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN3 1QR, UK.

Distributed by: Eurodrug Ltd, Santry, Dublin 9.

PPA No: 1151/151/1

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This medicinal product is authorised in the Member States of the EEA under the following names:

Austria	Serevent Evohaler
Belgium	Serevent Evohaler
Denmark	Serevent
Estonia	Serevent
Hungary	Serevent Evohaler
Iceland	Serevent
Ireland	Serevent Evohaler
Lithuania	Serevent
Luxembourg	Serevent Evohaler
Malta	Serevent Evohaler
Netherlands	Serevent 25 Inhalator CFK vrij, suspensie 25 microgram/dosis
Norway	Serevent
Poland	Serevent
Slovak Republic	Serevent Inhaler N
Slovenia	Serevent 25 µg/vpih inhalacijska suspenzija pod tlakom
Sweden	Serevent Evohaler
United Kingdom	Serevent Evohaler

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