

FLUTICASONE (for inhalation)

floo-tik-ah-sonə

What does it do?

Fluticasone is a steroid medicine that helps to prevent asthma symptoms and breathing problems.

How should you use it?

Inhale *fluticasone* as directed by your healthcare professional.

Rinse your mouth after use.

Fluticasone works best when used every day.

If you need quick relief from asthma symptoms or breathing problems, use your 'reliever' medicine (e.g. ipratropium, salbutamol, terbutaline).

What if you forget a dose?

If it is nearly time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and inhale your next dose at the usual time.

Otherwise, inhale the missed dose as soon as you remember. Do not inhale two doses at the same time.

Can you take other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

What side effects might you notice?

Side Effects	Recommended action
Dry mouth or throat, hoarse voice, cough Unpleasant taste Small white sores in mouth, furry tongue (oral thrush)	Use a spacer and rinse your mouth after use. If symptoms continue, tell your doctor.
Headache, dizziness	Tell your doctor if troublesome

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

Other information:

- Do not stop using your inhaler without talking to your doctor first.
- Tell your doctor if you have diabetes, cataracts, osteoporosis or glaucoma, or if you have ever had tuberculosis.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- Some people with asthma may get short of breath after taking certain pain-relieving medicines such as aspirin (e.g. *Aspec*®), diclofenac (e.g. *Voltaren*®) or ibuprofen (e.g. *Nurofen*®). Talk to your healthcare professional.
- Long-term use of *fluticasone* may rarely cause effects such as: round face, change in body shape, change in hair growth, thin skin, weak muscles, increased risk of infection, increased blood pressure, diabetes and slowed growth in children – discuss with your healthcare professional.
- The use of inhalers can sometimes make breathing worse. Discuss this with your healthcare professional.