# ALBUTEROL

**CLASSIFICATION**  
Sympathomimetic bronchodilator

**TRADE NAME(S)**  
Proventil, Ventolin

**DESIRED EFFECTS**  
To relieve bronchospasm in patients with reversible obstructive airway disease (asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema) and acute attacks of bronchospasm.

**MECHANISM OF ACTION**  
Stimulates beta - 2 receptors; acts primarily on bronchial musculature rather than on myocardium.

**INDICATIONS**  
- Asthma or wheezing due to bronchospasm  
- COPD exacerbation  
- Toxic inhalation causing reactive airway disease

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**  
- Tachyarrhythmias  
- Known hypersensitivity to albuterol

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**  
- Tremors  
- Nervousness  
- Dizziness  
- Tachycardia  
- Palpitations  
- Hypertension  
- Nausea and vomiting

**DRUG INTERACTIONS**  
- May antagonize beta-adrenergic blockers  
- Increase effects in the presence of many antidepressants (i.e. TCA)

**PRECAUTIONS**  
- Diabetes, Schizophrenia, Hyperthyroidism, Prostatic hypertrophy, Glaucoma

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**  
Albuterol may be given continuously for patients in extremis. Do not withhold in pregnant asthmatics. Hypoxia is a greater risk to the fetus than the risk of the effects from the medication.

**DOSING REGIMEN**  
- **Adult** - 2.5mg/3ml (unit dose) via nebulizer every 10-20 minutes.  
  - May repeat 2 more times
  
- **Pediatric** - 2.5mg/3ml (unit dose) via nebulizer every 10-20 minutes.  
  - May repeat 2 more times

**PROTOCOL LOCATION**  
- Respiratory Emergencies  
- Allergic Reaction / Anaphylactic Shock  
- Renal Emergencies