Atrovent®
(ipratropium bromide)
Inhalation Solution
Prescribing Information
DESCRIPTION The active ingredient in ATROVENT® (ipratropium bromide) Inhalation Solution is ipratropium bromide monohydrate. It is an anticholinergic bronchodilator chemically described as 8-azoniabicyclo[3.2.1]-octane,3-(3-hydroxy-1-oxo-2-phenylpropoxy)-8-methyl-8-(1-methylethyl)-, bromide, monohydrate (endo,syn)-, (±)-; a synthetic quaternary ammonium compound, chemically related to atropine.

Ipratropium bromide is a white crystalline substance, freely soluble in lower water and lower alcohols. It is a quaternary ammonium compound and thus exists in an ionized state in aqueous solutions. It is relatively insoluble in non-polar media. 

Atrovent Inhalation Solution is administered by oral inhalation with the aid of a nebulizer. It contains ipratropium bromide 0.02% (anhydrous basis) in a sterile, isotonic saline solution, pH-adjusted to 3.4 (3 to 4) with hydrochloric acid.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY Atrovent® (ipratropium bromide) is an anticholinergic (parasympatholytic) agent that, based on animal studies, appears to inhibit vagally-mediated reflexes by antagonizing the action of acetylcholine, the transmitter agent released from the vagus nerve.

Anticholinergics prevent the increases in intracellular concentration of cyclic guanosine monophosphate (cyclic GMP) that are caused by interaction of acetylcholine with the muscarinic receptor on bronchial smooth muscle. 

The bronchodilation following inhalation of Atrovent is primarily a local, site-specific effect, not a systemic one. Much of an administered dose is swallowed but not absorbed, as shown by fecal excretion studies. Following nebulization of a 2 mg dose, a mean 7% of the dose was absorbed into the systemic circulation either from the surface of the lung or from the gastrointestinal tract. The half-life of elimination is about 1.6 hours after intravenous administration. Ipratropium bromide is minimally (0 to 9% in vitro) bound to plasma albumin and α1-acid glycoproteins. It is partially metabolized. Autoradiographic studies in rats have shown that Atrovent does not penetrate the blood-brain barrier. Atrovent has not been studied in patients with hepatic or renal insufficiency. It should be used with caution in those patient populations. 

In controlled 12-week studies in patients with bronchospasm associated with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (chronic bronchitis and emphysema) significant improvements in pulmonary function (FEV1 increases of 15% or more) occurred within 15 to 30 minutes, reached a peak in 1-2 hours, and persisted for periods of 4-5 hours in the majority of patients, with about 25-38% of the patients demonstrating increases of 15% or more for at least 7-8 hours. Continued effectiveness of Atrovent Inhalation Solution was demonstrated throughout
the 12-week period. In addition, significant increases in forced vital capacity (FVC) have been
demonstrated. However, Atrovent did not consistently produce significant improvement in
subjective symptom scores nor in quality of life scores over the 12-week duration of study.
Additional controlled 12-week studies were conducted to evaluate the safety and effectiveness
of Atrovent Inhalation Solution administered concomitantly with the beta adrenergic
bronchodilator solutions metaproterenol and albuterol compared with the administration of each
of the beta agonists alone. Combined therapy produced significant additional improvement in
FEV₁ and FVC. On combined therapy, the median duration of 15% improvement in FEV₁ was
5-7 hours, compared with 3-4 hours in patients receiving a beta agonist alone.

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

Atrovent® (ipratropium bromide) Inhalation Solution administered
either alone or with other bronchodilators, especially beta adrenergics, is indicated as a
bronchodilator for maintenance treatment of bronchospasm associated with chronic obstructive
pulmonary disease, including chronic bronchitis and emphysema.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Atrovent® (ipratropium bromide) is contraindicated in known or
suspected cases of hypersensitivity to ipratropium bromide, or to atropine and its derivatives.

**WARNINGS**

The use of Atrovent® (ipratropium bromide) Inhalation Solution as a single agent
for the relief of bronchospasm in acute COPD exacerbation has not been adequately studied.
Drugs with faster onset of action may be preferable as initial therapy in this situation.
Combination of Atrovent and beta agonists has not been shown to be more effective than either
drug alone in reversing the bronchospasm associated with acute COPD exacerbation.
Immediate hypersensitivity reactions may occur after administration of ipratropium bromide, as
demonstrated by rare cases of urticaria, angioedema, rash, bronchospasm and oropharyngeal
edema.

**PRECAUTIONS**

**General**

ATROVENT® (ipratropium bromide) should be used with caution in
patients with narrow angle glaucoma, prostatic hypertrophy, or bladder neck obstruction.

**Information for Patients**

Patients should be advised that temporary blurring of vision,
precipitation or worsening of narrow angle glaucoma or eye pain may result if the solution
comes into direct contact with the eyes. Use of a nebulizer with mouthpiece rather than face
mask may be preferable, to reduce the likelihood of the nebulizer solution reaching the eyes.
Patients should be advised that Atrovent Inhalation Solution can be mixed in the nebulizer with
albuterol or metaproterenol if used within one hour. Drug stability and safety of Atrovent
Inhalation Solution when mixed with other drugs in a nebulizer have not been established.
Patients should be reminded that Atrovent Inhalation Solution should be used consistently as
prescribed throughout the course of therapy.

**Drug Interactions**

Atrovent has been shown to be a safe and effective bronchodilator when
used in conjunction with beta-adrenergic bronchodilators. Atrovent has also been used with
other pulmonary medications, including methylxanthines and corticosteroids, without adverse
drug interactions.

**Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility**

Two-year oral carcinogenicity studies
in rats and mice, have revealed no carcinogenic potential at dietary doses up to 6 mg/kg/day of
Atrovent.
Results of various mutagenicity studies (Ames test, mouse dominant lethal test, mouse
micronucleus test and chromosome aberration of bone marrow in Chinese hamsters) were
negative.
Fertility of male or female rats at oral doses up to 50 mg/kg/day was unaffected by Atrovent
administration. At doses above 90 mg/kg, increased resorption and decreased conception
rates were observed.

**Pregnancy**

**TERATOGENIC EFFECTS**

*Pregnancy Category B.* Oral reproduction studies were performed in mice, rats and rabbits at
doses of 10, 100, and 125 mg/kg respectively, and inhalation reproduction studies in rats and
rabbits at doses of 1.5 and 1.8 mg/kg (or approximately 38 and 45 times the recommended
human daily dose) respectively, have demonstrated no evidence of teratogenic effects as a
result of Atrovent. However, no adequate or well-controlled studies have been conducted in
pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human
response, Atrovent should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.
Nursing Mothers  It is not known whether Atrovent is excreted in human milk. Although lipid-
insoluble quaternary bases pass into breast milk, it is unlikely that Atrovent® (ipratropium bromide) would reach the infant to a significant extent, especially when taken by inhalation since Atrovent is not well absorbed systemically after inhalation or oral administration. However, because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when Atrovent is administered to a nursing woman.

Pediatric Use  Safety and effectiveness in the pediatric population below the age of 12 have not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS  Adverse reaction information concerning Atrovent® (ipratropium bromide) Inhalation Solution is derived from 12-week active-controlled clinical trials. Additional information is derived from foreign post-marketing experience and the published literature. All adverse events, regardless of drug relationship, reported by three percent or more patients in the 12-week controlled clinical trials appear in the table below. Additional adverse reactions reported in less than three percent of the patients treated with Atrovent include tachycardia, palpitations, eye pain, urinary retention, urinary tract infection and urticaria. Cases of precipitation or worsening of narrow-angle glaucoma and acute eye pain have been reported. Lower respiratory adverse reactions (bronchitis, dyspnea and bronchospasm) were the most common events leading to discontinuation of Atrovent therapy in the 12-week trials. Headache, mouth dryness and aggravation of COPD symptoms are more common when the total daily dose of Atrovent equals or exceeds 2,000 mcg. Allergic-type reactions such as skin rash, angioedema of tongue, lips and face, urticaria, laryngospasm and anaphylactic reaction have been reported. Many of the patients had a history of allergies to other drugs and/or foods.

All Adverse Events, from a Double-blind, Parallel, 12-week Study of Patients with COPD*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERCENT OF PATIENTS</th>
<th>Atrovent® (500 mcg t.i.d) n=219</th>
<th>Alupent® (15 mg t.i.d) n=212</th>
<th>Atrovent®/Alupent® (500 mcg t.i.d/15 mg t.i.d) n=108</th>
<th>Albuterol (2.5 mg t.i.d) n=205</th>
<th>Atrovent®/Albuterol (500 mcg t.i.d/2.5 mg t.i.d) n=100</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Body as a Whole-General Disorders</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Headache</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>6.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pain</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>5.0</td>
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<td>Influenza-like symptoms</td>
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<td>4.7</td>
<td>6.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Back pain</td>
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<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.4</td>
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<td>Chest pain</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<td>Cardiovascular Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hypertension/Hypertension Aggravated</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dizziness</td>
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<td>3.3</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insomnia</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tremor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nervousness</td>
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<td>4.7</td>
<td>6.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gastrointestinal System Disorders</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mouth Dryness</td>
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<td>1.9</td>
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<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nausea</td>
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<td>3.8</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Constipation</td>
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<td>Musculo-skeletal System Disorders</td>
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<td>Arthritis</td>
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<td>0.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respiratory System Disorders (Lower)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coughing</td>
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<td>6.5</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>6.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dyspnea</td>
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<td>13.2</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>9.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronchitis</td>
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<td>24.5</td>
<td>15.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronchospasm</td>
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<td>4.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sputum Increased</td>
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<td>1.4</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>3.4</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6.1</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respiratory System Disorders (Upper)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Respiratory Tract Infection</td>
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<td>11.3</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>16.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pharyngitis</td>
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<td>4.2</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhinitis</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sinusitis</td>
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<td>2.8</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*All adverse events, regardless of drug relationship, reported by three percent or more patients in the 12-week controlled clinical trials.

**OVERDOSAGE** Acute systemic overdosage by inhalation is unlikely since Atrovent® (ipratropium bromide) is not well absorbed after inhalation at up to four-fold the recommended dose, or after oral administration at up to forty-fold the recommended dose. The oral LD₅₀ of Atrovent ranged between 1001 and 2010 mg/kg in mice; between 1667 and 4000 mg/kg in rats; and between 400 and 1300 mg/kg in dogs.

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** The usual dosage of Atrovent® (ipratropium bromide) Inhalation Solution is 500 mcg (1 Unit-Dose Vial) administered three to four times a day by oral nebulization, with doses 6 to 8 hours apart. Atrovent Inhalation Solution Unit-Dose Vials contain 500 mcg ipratropium bromide anhydrous in 2.5 ml normal saline. Atrovent Inhalation Solution can be mixed in the nebulizer with albuterol or metaproterenol if used within one hour. Drug stability and safety of Atrovent Inhalation Solution when mixed with other drugs in a nebulizer have not been established.

**HOW SUPPLIED** Atrovent® (ipratropium bromide) Inhalation Solution Unit Dose Vial is supplied as a 0.02% clear, colorless solution containing 2.5 ml with 5 Unit Dose Vials per pouch, 5 pouches per carton (NDC 0597-0080-62). Each vial is made from a low-density polyethylene (LDPE) resin. Store between 59°F (15°C) and 86°F (30°C). Protect from light. Store unused vials in the foil pouch. ATTENTION PHARMACIST: Detach “Patient’s Instructions for Use” from Package Insert and dispense with solution.

Rx only.

Boehringer Ingelheim

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Manufactured by Roxane Laboratories, Inc. Columbus, OH 43228
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Printed in U.S.A. 830885-R Revised 10/98
Patient's Instructions for Use
Atrovent® 0.02%
(ipratropium bromide)
Inhalation Solution
Read complete instructions carefully before using.

1. Twist open the top of one unit dose vial and squeeze the contents into the nebulizer reservoir (Figure 1).

2. Connect the nebulizer reservoir to the mouthpiece or face mask (Figure 2).

3. Connect the nebulizer to the compressor.

4. Sit in a comfortable, upright position; place the mouthpiece in your mouth (Figure 3) or put on the face mask and turn on the compressor. If a face mask is used, care should be taken to avoid leakage around the mask as
temporary blurring of vision, precipitation or worsening of narrow-angle glaucoma, or eye pain may occur if the solution comes into direct contact with the eyes.

5. **Breath as calmly, deeply and evenly** as possible until no more mist is formed in the nebulizer chamber (about 5-15 minutes). At this point, the treatment is finished.

6. Clean the nebulizer (see manufacturer's instructions).

**Note:** Use only as directed by your physician. More frequent administration or higher doses are not recommended. Atrovent Inhalation Solution can be mixed in the nebulizer with albuterol or metaproterenol if used within one hour but not with other drugs. Drug stability and safety of Atrovent Inhalation Solution when mixed with other drugs in a nebulizer have not been established.

Store between 59°F (15°C) and 86°F (30°C). Protect from light. Store unused vials in the foil pouch.

**ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

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