

Albuterol is most commonly used for acute asthma attacks because of its quick-acting mechanism, but can also be administered for COPD. This drug can be administered as a handheld actuated inhaler, or as a nebulized solution.

Long-term Treatment

Long river

There are specific beta-2 agonists, which are long acting and are used for chronic conditions, termed long-acting beta-2 agonists (LABA).

Salmeterol

Salmon-troll

Salmeterol is a long acting beta-2 agonist, and has therapeutic effects lasting roughly 12 hours. It is typically used in severe persistent asthma (combined with a corticosteroid), and is used everyday to prevent the number of monthly attacks in patients.

Asthma

Asthma-inhaler

Salmeterol a long-acting beta agonist (LABA), and is typically used for severe persistent asthma, which is otherwise uncontrolled solely with a short-acting beta agonist (SABA).

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

C.O.P.D. Cop

Salmeterol is also used in patients with COPD, and works by inducing bronchial dilation. This drug is used daily to prevent acute COPD exacerbations in patients with this condition.