

MEDICAL PHARMACIES NEW DRUGS

Drug Information and News for Health Care Providers

August 2015



SEEBRI® BREEZHALER® (GLYCOPYRRONIUM BROMIDE)¹

INDICATION FOR USE AND GOAL(S) OF THERAPY

Seebri® Breezhaler® is an inhaled medication that is used once daily for maintenance of bronchodilation in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). COPD includes chronic bronchitis and emphysema. The goals of therapy include improvement in quality of life and slowing down of COPD progression.

FORMULATION

The Seebri® Breezhaler® consists of a device which delivers dry powder (containing glycopyrrolate) by oral inhalation. The dry powder for inhalation is stored in capsules contained in blister packs. The capsule should be removed from the blister pack immediately before using the medication via the Breezhaler®. The capsule must not be swallowed. See dose and administration for more information.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Seebri® Breezhaler® is contraindicated in residents who are hypersensitive to glycopyrronium bromide or to any other component of the medication. Seebri® Breezhaler® is also contraindicated in residents who have a severe hypersensitivity to milk proteins. Seebri® Breezhaler® is not to be used in acute episodes of bronchospasm (i.e., as a rescue medicine).

DOSE & ADMINISTRATION

Seebri® Breezhaler® is recommended for once-daily administration at the same time each day.

Seebri® Breezhaler® capsules must be administered only by the oral inhalation route and only using the Seebri® Breezhaler® inhaler. Please see product monograph for preparation and correct use of the inhalation device.

WHAT TO MONITOR AND REPORT TO THE HEALTHCARE TEAM

COPD is a progressive disease. The goals of treatment with Seebri® Breezhaler® along with other COPD therapy medications are to improve quality of life and slow disease progression. Spirometry conducted once a year may be used to monitor lung function and disease progression.²

Monitoring for adverse effects associated with use of this medication is important, although they occur infrequently. The most common adverse drug reaction related to anticholinergic effects of the drug is dry mouth. Local reactions may include throat irritation, nasopharyngitis, rhinitis, and sinusitis.

Adverse events which should be monitored that are of a more serious nature include:

- Anticholinergic effects:
 - Worsening of narrow-angle glaucoma, especially if drug powder enters eyes (e.g., eye pain or discomfort, blurred vision)
 - Worsening of urinary retention (e.g., difficulty passing urine, painful urination)
- Cardiovascular effects:
 - Be alert for signs of cardiac arrhythmia (e.g., atrial fibrillation and tachycardia)
- Potential for increased adverse events with severe renal impairment:
 - For residents with severe renal impairment (CrCl < 30mL/min).

Please refer to Seebri® Breezhaler® product monograph for more comprehensive information, including warnings and precautions.

References:

1. Seebri® Breezhaler® Product Monograph. e-Therapeutics+ Complete: e-CPS Canadian Pharmacists Association, Ottawa, ON.
2. Global initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease 2015. Available online at http://www.goldcopd.org/uploads/users/files/GOLD_Pocket_2015_Feb18.pdf. Accessed July 5, 2015.