IT'S SALBUTAMOL...
BUT NOT
AS WE KNOW IT.

COMBIVENT

In a single metered dose inhaler

NEW

Salbutamol + ipratropium bromide

Salbutamol Plus for Performance Plus

Prescribing information Combivent MDI Metered Dose Inhaler containing 200 doses, each delivering ipratropium bromide (anticholinergic bronchodilator) 20 micrograms and salbutamol (β_2-adrenergic agonist) 100 micrograms. **Indication:** treatment of bronchospasm associated with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in patients who require regular treatment with both ipratropium and salbutamol. **Dosage:** Adults only: two puffs four times a day. **Contra-indication:** known hypersensitivity to any of the components or to atropine or its derivatives. **Precautions:** cardiac disorders; hyperthyroidism; diabetes mellitus; co-prescription with β-blockers, corticosteroids, xanthine derivatives, other β-agonists or anticholinergics; pregnancy, especially the first trimester, and breast feeding. Potentially serious hypokalaemia may result from β_2-agonist therapy. Advise patient to seek medical advice in the event of acute, rapidly worsening dyspnoea or if response lessens; do not spray into the eye. **Side-effects:** tremor and nervousness may occur; tachycardia, dizziness, palpitations, headache, local reactions such as dryness of the mouth are less frequent; urinary retention has been reported rarely. As with other bronchodilators, cough and, very rarely, paradoxical bronchoconstriction have been observed. **Basic NHS price** 10ml vial complete with mouthpiece UK £6.00 POM. PL 0015/0191. PA 7/52/1 **Product Licence and Authorisation Holder:** Boehringer Ingelheim Limited, Ellesfield Avenue, Bracknell, RG12 8YS. **Date of Preparation:** March 1994. For full prescribing information please see data sheet.

Boehringer Ingelheim

Prepared March 1994.

Presentations: Pulmicort Respules. (2 ml single dose unit ampoules) containing 0.25 mg/ml or 0.5 mg/ml budesonide in a suspension for nebulisation. **Uses:** Bronchial asthma where use of a pressurised inhaler or dry powder formulation is unsatisfactory or inappropriate. **Dosage and administration:** Dosage schedules: Administer from suitable nebulisers. Dose delivered to the patient varies depending on the nebulising equipment used (see data sheet). Adjust dosage individually. Initially during periods of severe asthma and while reducing or discontinuing oral glucocorticosteroids the recommended dose in adults (including elderly and children 12 years and older) is usually 1-2 mg twice daily. In very severe cases the dosage may be further increased. Children 3 months to 12 years: 0.5-1 mg twice daily. The maintenance dose should be the lowest dose which keeps the patient symptom-free. Recommended doses are: Adults (including elderly and children 12 years and older): 0.5-1 mg twice daily. Children (3 months to 12 years): 0.25-0.5 mg twice daily. For an increased therapeutic effect increase dose of Pulmicort rather than combine treatment with oral corticosteroids because of the lower risk of systemic effects. **Contra-indication:** Hypersensitivity to any of the constituents. **Special warnings and precautions:** Care is needed in patients with pulmonary tuberculosis and viral infections in the airways. A short course of oral steroids in addition to Pulmicort may be required in patients with excessive mucus in the bronchi. Transfer of patients dependent on oral steroids to Pulmicort demands special care; see data sheet for further details. The nebuliser chamber should be cleaned and dried after every administration. Pulmicort does not affect the ability to drive and use machines. Pulmicort Respules can be mixed with 0.9% saline and with solutions of terbutaline, salbutamol, sodium cromoglycate or ipratropium bromide. **Side effects:** Mild irritation in the throat, coughing and hoarseness and oral candidiasis have been reported. In rare cases inhaled drugs may provoke bronchoconstriction in hyperreactive patients. Facial skin should be washed after use of the face mask as irritation can occur. Coughing can usually be prevented by inhaling a β_2 agonist (e.g. terbutaline) 5-10 minutes before inhalation of Pulmicort Respules. Avoid in pregnancy. **Pharmaceutical precautions:** Store below 30°C. Use within 3 months of opening the foil envelope. Protect opened ampoule from light. Use within 12 hours of opening. **Legal category:** POM. **Basic NHS price:** Pulmicort Respules 0.25 mg/ml (20 single dose units) £32.00. Pulmicort Respules 0.5 mg/ml (20 single dose units) £44.64. **Product licence numbers:** Pulmicort Respules 0.25 mg/ml PL 0017/0309. Pulmicort Respules 0.5 mg/ml PL 0017/0310. **For further information contact the product licence holder:** Astra Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Home Park, Kings Langley, Herts WD4 8DH. **Reference:** 1. Higenbottam TW et al. Eur J Clin Res 1994; **5:** 1-10.

ASTRA
Astra Pharmaceuticals

Time to take a breather from oral steroids

Pulmicort®
BUDESONIDE
Respules®

A high-dose nebulised steroid that's low on side effects[1]†

†Compared to oral steroids

Date of preparation: March 1994

OSTEO-REGENERATION

Until recently little could be done to treat established vertebral osteoporosis.

Now, through the power of osteo-regeneration, Didronel PMO enables you to reduce vertebral fractures by actually rebuilding lost bone mass.[1,2]

Isn't it time you discovered the power of osteo-regeneration?

NON-HORMONAL

Didronel® PMO

etidronate disodium/calcium carbonate

The power to restore bone and reduce vertebral fracture[1,2]

ABBREVIATED PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: PRESENTATION Didronel PMO is a two component therapy consisting of 14 Didronel 400 mg tablets and 76 Cacit 500 mg effervescent tablets. Each Didronel 400mg tablet contains 400 mg of etidronate disodium, USP. Each Cacit 500 mg effervescent tablet contains 1250 mg of calcium carbonate, Ph Eur. **INDICATION** Treatment of established vertebral osteoporosis, a disease characterised by a loss of bone mass and an increased risk of fracture. **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** Didronel PMO therapy is a long-term cyclical regimen administered in 90-day cycles. Each cycle consists of Didronel 400 mg tablets for the first 14 days, followed by Cacit 500 mg effervescent tablets for the remaining 76 days. The recommended duration of therapy is up to three years. **CONTRA-INDICATIONS, WARNINGS, ETC.** *Contra-indications:* Known hypersensitivity to etidronate disodium, severe renal impairment, hypercalcaemia or hypercalciuria, clinically overt osteomalacia. Use in pregnancy and lactation. *Precautions and warnings:* Didronel PMO therapy should be withheld from patients with enterocolitis. Caution should be taken in patients with impaired renal function, or a history of renal stone formation. Hyperphosphataemia has been observed, although no adverse effects have been traced to this, and it does not constitute grounds for discontinuing therapy. *Interactions with other drugs:* Food in the stomach or upper gastrointestinal tract may reduce absorption of etidronate disodium. Mineral supplements or antacids should not be taken within two hours of dosing etidronate disodium. Cacit may interfere with absorption of some drugs. *Side-effects:* The most common side-effects are gastrointestinal disturbance. Other rarely reported side-effects include mild leg cramps, hypersensitivity, haematological or neurological reactions. **LEGAL CATEGORY** POM. **PRODUCT LICENCE HOLDER** Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals UK, Limited, Lovett House, Lovett Road, Staines, Middlesex TW18 3AZ. **PRODUCT LICENCE NUMBER** 0364/0051. **BASIC NHS COST** £40.20 per 90-day therapy kit. Cacit is a trademark. Didronel is a registered trade mark. **References** 1. Storm, T. *et al.,* (1990), *New England Journal of Medicine, 322,* 1265-1271. 2. Watts, N.B. *et al.,* (1990), *New England Journal of Medicine, 323,* 73-79. Further information available on request from Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals UK Limited, Lovett House, Lovett Road, Staines, Middlesex TW18 3AZ. UK/API/1.4/AUG 93.

Procter & Gamble PHARMACEUTICALS

SYNTEX

TAKE THE STRAIN OUT OF PNEUMONIA

Once an X-ray confirms your diagnosis of pneumonia you need to act quickly. Treatment with once a day ROCEPHIN can be started immediately, before the results of susceptibility tests are known.

With a clinical success rate of 89.7% (n=1,060),[1,2] ROCEPHIN provides effective treatment of pneumonia, with proven efficacy in both community acquired and nosocomial pneumonia.[3]

Once-a-day

▼Rocephin® IV-IM
ceftriaxone

THE WORLD'S BEST SELLING INJECTABLE ANTIBIOTIC[4]

References
1. Brown, R.B. and Sands, M., Curr. Ther. Res.(1989),**46** (2), 285-91.
2. Data On File, (GCR B-116 232). 3. Niebuhr, H. *et al.* Chemotherapie Journal (1993), **2**, 28-35. 4. Estimated current cash annual sales worldwide - Data on File. Roche Products Ltd.

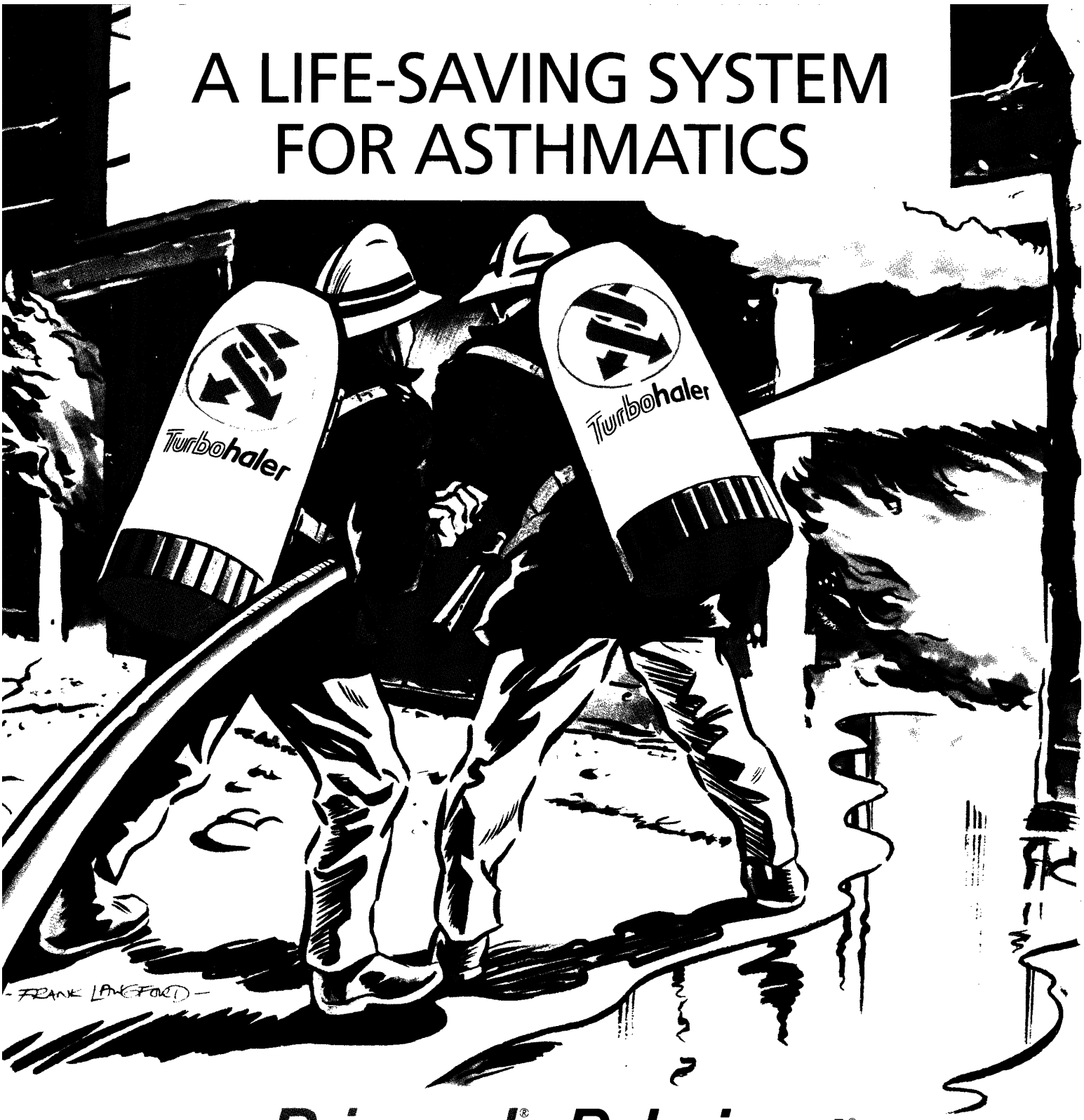
Brief Prescribing Information

Indications: Pneumonia, septicaemia; meningitis; bone, skin and soft tissue infections; infections in neutropenic patients; gonorrhoea; peri-operative prophylaxis of infections associated with surgery. Treatment may be started before the results of susceptibility tests are known. **Dosage and Administration:** Rocephin should be administered by deep intramuscular injection, slow intravenous injection, or as a slow intravenous infusion, after reconstitution of the solution. **Adults and children 12 years and over:** Standard dosage -1g once daily. Severe infections - 2-4g normally once daily. Duration of therapy varies according to course of disease. Gonorrhoea - single dose of 250mg i.m. Peri-operative prophylaxis - usually single dose of 1g, colorectal surgery 2g in conjunction with a suitable agent against anaerobic bacteria. **Children under 12 years:** Standard dosage - 20-50mg/kg once daily. Severe infections - maximum 80mg/kg once daily. Doses of 50mg/kg or over should be given by slow intravenous infusion over at least 30 minutes. **Renal and hepatic impairment:** In the absence of hepatic impairment dose reduction is required only in severe renal failure (creatinine clearance <10ml/min), when the daily dose should be 2g or less. No dose reduction is required in liver damage provided renal function is intact. In severe renal impairment accompanied by hepatic insufficiency the plasma concentration should be determined at regular intervals and dosage adjusted. Serum concentrations should be monitored in dialysis. **Contra-indications, Warnings etc.** Cephalosporin hypersensitivity. Premature infants. Full-term infants during first six weeks of life. Safety in pregnancy has not been established. **Precautions:** Stated dose should not be exceeded. Caution in patients with a history of hypersensitivity (especially anaphylactic reaction) to penicillins or other non-cephalosporin beta-lactam antibiotics. Anaphylactic shock requires immediate countermeasures. Severe renal impairment accompanied by hepatic insufficiency (see Dosage). **Side-effects and Adverse Reactions:** Gastro-intestinal side-effects including loose stools, diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting, stomatitis and glossitis. Cutaneous reactions including maculopapular rash, pruritus, urticaria, oedema and erythema multiforme. Haematological reactions including anaemia (all grades), leucopenia, neutropenia, thrombocytopenia, eosinophilia, agranulocytosis, positive Coombs' test and prolongation of prothrombin time. Regular blood counts should be carried out during treatment. Other reactions include headache, dizziness, drug fever and transient elevations in liver function tests. Rarely: glycosuria, oliguria, haematuria, anaphylaxis and bronchospasm. Very rarely, precipitation of ceftriaxone calcium salt in urine in patients on higher than recommended dose. Reversible precipitates of calcium ceftriaxone have been detected by gallbladder sonograms. In symptomatic cases (which are rare), conservative non-surgical management is recommended. Superinfections with yeasts, fungi or other resistant organisms. Rare instances of pseudomembranous colitis. Injection site pain and local phlebitis. **Legal Category:** POM. **Presentations and Basic NHS Cost:** 250mg vials i.m. and i.v. (containing 250mg ceftriaxone) - £2.87. 1g vials i.m. and i.v. (containing 1g ceftriaxone) - £11.46. 2g vials for infusion (containing 2g ceftriaxone) - £22.92. **Product Licence Numbers:** PL 0031/0169 (250mg vials), PL 0031/0171 (1g vials), PL 0031/0172 (2g vials) **Product Licence Holder:** Roche Products Limited, PO Box 8, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL7 3AY. Full prescribing information is available on request.

J 738084 Date of preparation February 1994

Roche

A LIFE-SAVING SYSTEM FOR ASTHMATICS



Bricanyl® Turbohaler®
TERBUTALINE SULPHATE

Pulmicort® Turbohaler® 200
BUDESONIDE

Abridged prescribing information: Presentation: Bricanyl Turbohaler. Dry powder inhaler delivering 0.5 mg terbutaline sulphate per actuation. **Uses** Relief and prevention of bronchospasm in bronchial asthma and bronchopulmonary disorders in which bronchospasm or reversible airways obstruction is a complicating factor **Dosage and administration:** Adults and children (including elderly): One inhalation (0.5 mg) as required. Not more than 4 inhalations/day. **Contra-indications, warnings, etc:** Sensitivity to terbutaline sulphate. Precautions: Care should be taken in patients with myocardial insufficiency or thyrotoxicosis. Additional blood glucose measurements are initially recommended in diabetic patients. If treatment becomes less effective or shorter acting, the patient's general condition should be reviewed. Do not use in patients with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. Potentially serious hypokalaemia may result from ß2-agonist therapy. Administer with caution during the first trimester of pregnancy. Do not administer concurrently with non-selective ß-blockers. Use with caution with other sympathomimetics. **Side effects:** Tremor, tonic cramp and palpitations are all characteristic of sympathomimetic amines. A few patients feel tense. **Basic NHS price:** Bricanyl Turbohaler (100 doses) £8.94. **Legal category:** POM. **Product licence number:** PL 0017/0241.

Presentations: Pulmicort Turbohaler 100. 100 µg/puff budesonide dry powder inhaler containing 200 doses. Pulmicort Turbohaler 200. 200 µg/puff budesonide dry powder inhaler containing 100 doses. Pulmicort Turbohaler 400. 400 µg/puff budesonide dry powder inhaler containing 50 doses. **Uses:** Bronchial asthma. **Dosage and administration:** Individualise dose. Adults: 200-1600 µg daily in divided doses. Children: 200-800 µg daily in divided doses. Maintenance: Use lowest possible dose. Brush the teeth and rinse the mouth out with water after each use. **Contra-indications, warnings, etc:** Active pulmonary tuberculosis. Special care is needed in patients with fungal and viral infections in the airways. Avoid administration during pregnancy. A short course of oral steroids in addition to Pulmicort may be required in patients with excessive mucus in the bronchi. Transfer of patients dependent on oral steroids to treatment with Pulmicort demands special care. See data sheet for further details. **Side effects:** Mild irritation in the throat, hoarseness and oral candidiasis occur in some patients. Rare cases of cataract have been reported after prolonged use of corticosteroids. **Legal category:** POM. **Basic NHS price:** Pulmicort Turbohaler 100 (200 doses) £18.50. Pulmicort Turbohaler 200 (100 doses) £18.50. Pulmicort Turbohaler 400 (50 doses) £18.50. **Product licence numbers:** Pulmicort Turbohaler 100 PL 0017/0319 (100 µg/puff). Pulmicort Turbohaler 200 PL 0017/0272 (200 µg/puff). Pulmicort Turbohaler 400 PL 0017/0271 (400 µg/puff).

ASTRA
Astra Pharmaceuticals

Further information is available from the product licence holder: Astra Pharmaceuticals Limited, Home Park, Kings Langley, Herts WD4 8DH. ®Registered trade mark

Date of preparation: April 1994