SYMBICORT & Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Fact Sheet

What is Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)?
COPD is a serious lung disease that includes chronic bronchitis – resulting from constantly inflamed and irritated airways in the lungs – and/or emphysema – resulting from damage to small air sacs and airways in the lungs. The airways of patients with COPD are partially blocked making it difficult to get air in and out, or breathe. COPD develops slowly and can worsen over time – making it harder for patients to breathe and get the oxygen they need.

What are the Symptoms of COPD?
Common COPD symptoms include the following:
• Constant coughing, also called "smoker's cough"
• Shortness of breath while doing activities
• Excessive sputum production
• Feelings of not being able to breathe
• Inability to take a deep breath
• Wheezing

Who is Affected by COPD?
• There are approximately 12 million adult Americans diagnosed with COPD, with an additional estimated 12 million who may have COPD and remain undiagnosed. Many patients with COPD may also not be optimally treated
• COPD is the third leading cause of death in the US and the mortality has continued to rise over the past decade, claiming the lives of 133,965 people alone in 2009
• The disease disproportionately affects women vs men; non-Hispanic whites vs both non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics; and people with asthma vs those without a history of the disease
• COPD most often occurs in people aged 40 and over with a history of smoking, and prevalence generally increases with age

How is COPD Treated?
While there is no cure for COPD, there are a wide range of COPD treatment options as well as lifestyle changes that may make a significant difference in a patient's breathing. There are two primary types of medicinal treatment that are often used – short-acting bronchodilators to help relieve sudden COPD symptoms and long-acting maintenance medicines to help reduce inflammation and ease constriction in your airways.

One FDA-approved COPD treatment option is SYMBICORT® (budesonide/formoterol fumarate dihydrate) 160/4.5 inhalation aerosol. SYMBICORT, a combination of inhaled corticosteroid and long-acting beta2-adrenergic agonist made by AstraZeneca, is indicated for the twice-daily maintenance treatment of airflow obstruction in patients with COPD, including chronic bronchitis and emphysema.

SYMBICORT 160/4.5 mcg when taken twice-daily has been shown to help significantly improve lung function, starting within 5 minutes. SYMBICORT combines two medicines to help ease constriction and reduce inflammation in the airways. SYMBICORT will not replace a
Background information for reporters/media on COPD and SYMBICORT® (budesonide/formoterol fumarate dihydrate) inhalation aerosol

rescue inhaler for sudden symptoms. The most common adverse reactions ≥ 3% reported in COPD clinical trials included nasopharyngitis, sinusitis, and upper respiratory tract infection.

Complete product and Prescribing Information and numerous COPD tools are available at www.MySYMBICORT.com/COPD.

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Important Safety Information About SYMBICORT 160/4.5 for COPD patients

Call your health care provider if you notice any of the following symptoms: change in amount or color of sputum, fever, chills, increased cough, or increased breathing problems. People with COPD may have a higher chance of pneumonia.

SYMBICORT does not replace rescue inhalers for sudden symptoms.

Be sure to tell your health care provider about all your health conditions, including heart conditions or high blood pressure, and all medicines you may be taking. Some patients taking SYMBICORT may experience increased blood pressure, heart rate, or change in heart rhythm.

Do not use SYMBICORT more often than prescribed. While taking SYMBICORT, never use another medicine containing a LABA for any reason. Ask your health care provider or pharmacist if any of your other medicines are LABA medicines, as using too much LABA may cause chest pain, increase in blood pressure, fast and irregular heartbeat, headache, tremor, and nervousness.

Patients taking SYMBICORT should call their health care provider or get emergency medical care:

- if you experience serious allergic reactions including rash, hives, swelling of the face, mouth and tongue, and breathing problems
- if you think you are exposed to infections such as chicken pox or measles, or if you have any signs of infection. You may have a higher chance of infection
- if you experience an increase in wheezing right after taking SYMBICORT, eye problems including glaucoma and cataracts, decreases in bone mineral density, swelling of blood vessels (signs include a feeling of pins and needles or numbness of arms or legs, flu like symptoms, rash, pain and swelling of the sinuses), decrease in blood potassium, and increase in blood sugar levels

If you are switching to SYMBICORT from an oral corticosteroid, follow your health care provider’s instructions to avoid serious health risks when you stop using oral corticosteroids.

Common side effects include inflammation of the nasal passages and throat, thrush in the mouth and throat, bronchitis, sinusitis, and upper respiratory tract infection.

Approved Uses for COPD

SYMBICORT 160/4.5 is for adults with COPD, including chronic bronchitis and emphysema. You should only take 2 inhalations of SYMBICORT twice a day. Higher doses will not provide additional benefits.

Please read Prescribing Information, including Boxed WARNING, with Medication Guide.
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Patients are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.FDA.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

The information on this fact sheet site should not take the place of talking with a doctor or health care provider about how to manage and treat COPD. Only a doctor together with a patient can decide if SYMBICORT is right for the patient.

This product information is intended for US customers only.

SYMBICORT is a registered trademark of the AstraZeneca group of companies.