



Prior Authorization Approval Criteria
Department of Pharmacy Services

Generic Name: Formoterol

Brand Name: Perforomist

Medication Class: Long acting beta-2 agonist

FDA Approved Uses: Long term maintenance treatment of bronchoconstriction in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), including chronic bronchitis and emphysema.

Available Dosage Forms: Inhalation solution for use by nebulization. 20mcg of formoterol per 2 ml solution in unit dose vials in foil pouches with 60 unit doses per carton.

Usual Dose: 20 mcg administered twice daily by nebulization. Doses greater than 40mcg per day is not recommended.

Duration of Therapy: Indefinite

Approximate monthly cost (based on AWP 2007): \$349.20 for 20mcg twice daily for one month.

Criteria for Use: *(bullet points below are all inclusive unless otherwise noted)*

- Clinically diagnosed COPD.
- Failed or intolerant to Foradil (formoterol).
- Failed or intolerant to Serevent (salmeterol).

Or

- Patient unable to use an inhaler.

Cautions:

- The drug compatibility, efficacy, and safety of Perforomist when mixed with other drugs in a nebulizer have not been established.

Contraindications:

- Patients with a history of hypersensitivity to formoterol or to any other components of this product.

Not Approved if:

- Patient does not meet the above stated criteria.
- Patient has any contraindications to the use of formoterol.
- Treating only asthma, since safety and efficacy has not been established to treat this condition.



Special Considerations:

- Must be stored refrigerated in individual unit dose vials sealed in single foil pouches and should be used immediately after opening. Unopened foil pouches may be stored refrigerated or at room temperature for up to 3 months at which point any unused product must be discarded.
- Perforomist safety and efficacy has only been established in clinical trials when administered using the PARI LC PLUS nebulizers and PRONEB ultra compressors. The safety and efficacy of Perforomist when administered using other nebulizer systems has not been established.
- Perforomist does not offer clinical advantages beyond offering options to patients who cannot use DPI's.

Some Inhaled Drugs for Maintenance Treatment of COPD (Medical Letter November 19, 2007)

Drug	Formulation	Delivery Device	Daily Dosage	Cost¹
Long-acting Beta2-agonists				
Salmeterol – Serevent Diskus	Powder 50 mcg/blister	DPI	50 mcg bid	\$146.40
Formoterol – Foradil Aerolizer	Powder 12 mcg/capsule	DPI	12 mcg bid	\$122.40
Perforomist	Solution 20 mcg/2 mL	Nebulizer	20 mcg bid	\$349.20
Arformoterol – Brovana	Solution 15 mcg/2 mL	Nebulizer	15 mcg bid	\$345.60
Long-acting Anticholinergic				
Tiotropium – Spiriva	Powder 18 mcg/cap	DPI	18 mcg once	\$158.70
Corticosteroid/beta2-agonist Combinations				
Fluticasone/salmeterol – Advair Diskus	Powder 100/50 mcg 250/50 mcg; 500/50 mcg/blister Blister ³	DPI	1 inhalation bid	\$174- 297.00
Advair HFA	Suspension, 45, 115, 230 mcg/21 mcg	MDI	2 inhalations BID	\$174- 296.88
Budesonide/formoterol -Symbicort	Powder 80 or 160 mcg/ 4.5 mcg	DPI	2 inhalations BID	\$165.00- 189.00

DPI = Dry powder inhaler, MDI = Metered dose inhaler, HFA = hydrofluoroalkane

1. Cost for 30 days' treatment.

P&T Approval: _____ Date: _____