Budesonide (Nasal)

This information from Lexicomp® explains what you need to know about this medication, including what it’s used for, how to take it, its side effects, and when to call your healthcare provider.

**Brand Names: US**
Rhinocort Allergy [OTC]; Rhinocort Aqua [DSC]

**Brand Names: Canada**
MYLAN-Budesonide AQ; Rhinocort Aqua; Rhinocort Turbuhaler [DSC]

**What is this drug used for?**
- It is used to ease allergy signs.

**What do I need to tell the doctor BEFORE my child takes this drug?**
- If your child is allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell the doctor about the allergy and what signs your child had.
- If your child is younger than 6 years of age. Do not give this drug to a child younger than 6 years of age.

This drug may interact with other drugs or health problems.

Tell the doctor and pharmacist about all of your child’s drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe to give this drug with all of your child’s other drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug your child takes
without checking with the doctor.

**What are some things I need to know or do while my child takes this drug?**

- Tell all of your child’s health care providers that your child is taking this drug. This includes your child’s doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Long-term use may raise the chance of cataracts or glaucoma. Talk with the doctor.
- It may take 2 weeks to see the full effect.
- If your child has been exposed to chickenpox or measles and has not had chickenpox or measles or had a chickenpox or measles vaccine, talk with the doctor.
- If your child has had any recent nose surgery, injury, ulcers, or sores, talk with the doctor.
- This drug may affect growth in children and teens in some cases. They may need regular growth checks. Talk with the doctor.

**If your child is pregnant or breast-feeding a baby:**

- Talk with the doctor if your child is pregnant, becomes pregnant, or is breast-feeding a baby. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to your child and the baby.

**What are some side effects that I need to call my child’s doctor about right away?**

**WARNING/CAUTION:** Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your child’s doctor or get medical help right away if your child has any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of
the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.

- Signs of infection like fever, chills, very bad sore throat, ear or sinus pain, cough, more sputum or change in color of sputum, pain with passing urine, mouth sores, or wound that will not heal.

- Nose sores.

- Whistling sound when your child breathes.

- Redness or white patches in mouth or throat.

- Change in eyesight.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your child’s doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother your child or do not go away:

- Nosebleed.

- Nose or throat irritation.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your child’s doctor. Call your child’s doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

How is this drug best given?

Give this drug as ordered by your child’s doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

- Keep using this drug as you have been told by your child’s doctor or other health care provider, even if your child’s signs get better.

- Do not give this drug by mouth. Use in your child’s nose only. Keep out of your child’s mouth and eyes (may burn).

- Shake well before use.
• Prime pump before first use or if you have not used for 2 days.
• Have your child blow nose before use.
• Close 1 nostril.
• Put nose spray tube into other nostril.
• While your child breathes in through the nose, press down once to release spray.
• Have your child breathe out from the mouth.
• Spray up your child’s nose only. Do not spray onto the wall joining your child’s nostrils.
• Follow how to clean carefully.

What do I do if my child misses a dose?

• Give a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
• If it is close to the time for your child’s next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your child’s normal time.
• Do not give 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.

How do I store and/or throw out this drug?

• Store upright at room temperature. Do not freeze.
• Protect from light.
• Store in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.
• Throw away after the stated number of sprays have been used, even if it feels like there is more drug left.
• Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
• Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back
programs in your area.

**General drug facts**

- If your child’s symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your child’s doctor.

- Do not share your child’s drug with others and do not give anyone else’s drug to your child.

- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your child’s doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.

- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

**Consumer Information Use and Disclaimer**

This information should not be used to decide whether or not to take this medicine or any other medicine. Only the healthcare provider has the knowledge and training to decide which medicines are right for a specific patient. This information does not endorse any medicine as safe, effective, or approved for treating any patient or health condition. This is only a brief summary of general information about this medicine. It does NOT include all information about the possible uses, directions, warnings, precautions, interactions, adverse effects, or risks that may apply to this medicine. This information is not specific medical advice and does not replace information you receive from the healthcare provider. You must talk with the healthcare provider for complete information about the risks and benefits of using this medicine.

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For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.