

Australian Asthma Handbook Quick Reference Guide Version 1.3

Version 1.3 of the *Australian Asthma Handbook* is now available. The information in this guide is not incorrect, however it may not include all aspects of current best practice. Below are the key changes to this guide from Versions 1.2 and 1.3. Version 1.3 amendments are in **bold**. Please visit astmahandbook.org.au for the most up-to-date advice and for further details of the amendments.



Item(s) amended	Change
Page 5, Asset ID 22	<p>Amendment of fluticasone furoate asterisk:</p> <p><i>Fluticasone furoate is not available as a low dose. TGA-registered formulations of fluticasone furoate contain a medium or high dose of fluticasone furoate and should only be prescribed as one inhalation once daily.</i></p>
Page 12, Asset ID 31	<p>Amendment of Step 3:</p> <p><i>SOME PATIENTS</i></p> <p><i>Stepped up regular preventer</i></p> <p><i>ICS/LABA combination (low dose) as maintenance therapy OR budesonide/formoterol (low dose) as maintenance and reliever therapy</i></p> <p><i>Table. Guide to selecting and adjusting asthma medication in adults and older adolescents</i></p> <p>Amendment of footnotes:</p> <p><i>* Reliever means rapid-onset beta₂ agonist and includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• short-acting beta₂ agonists</i> <i>• low-dose budesonide/formoterol combination – only applies to patients using this combination in a maintenance-and-reliever regimen. (This combination is not classed as a reliever when used in a maintenance-only regimen).</i> <p><i>§ In addition, manage flare-ups with extra treatment when they occur, and manage exercise-related asthma symptoms as indicated.</i></p>
Page 13, Asset ID 32 Page 24 (p23 V1.2), Asset ID 75	<p>Table title changes:</p> <p><i>Initial treatment choices (adults <u>and adolescents</u> already using a preventer)</i></p> <p><i>Types of inhaler devices for delivering asthma <u>and COPD</u> medicines</i></p>

Page 14, Asset ID 40	Amendment of table and addition of footnote: <i>White cell differential count on a peripheral blood sample is not routinely recommended in the investigation and management of asthma, except for patients with severe refractory asthma. In research studies, peripheral blood eosinophilia suggests the presence of eosinophilic airway inflammation.</i>
Page 16, Asset ID 42	Amendment of bottom row: <i>Fluticasone propionate/salmeterol (Seretide, Fluticasone and Salmeterol Cipla Inhaler)</i>
Page 21, Asset ID 16 and 20 Page 22, Asset ID 25 and 26 Page 38, Asset ID 84	Addition of footnote: <i>Advise parents about potential adverse psychiatric effects of montelukast</i>
Page 23 (p24 V1.2), Asset ID 76 Page 24 (p23 V1.2), Asset ID 75	Content amended to reflect updated National Asthma Council information paper <i>Inhaler technique for people with asthma or COPD</i> , including restructure of Table (Asset ID) 75 for clarity and addition of medications used to treat COPD Addition of <i>Fluticasone and Salmeterol Cipla Inhaler</i> and <i>Fluticasone Cipla Inhaler</i> to pMDI Preventers
Pages 26-27, Asset ID 65 Pages 28-29, Asset ID 67	Amendment of Severe and Life-threatening boxes in top row: <i>Start oxygen if oxygen saturation less than 95%</i>
Page 36, Asset ID 52	Deletion of <i>Thunderstorms</i> from <i>Allergens</i> and amendment of <i>Thunderstorms in spring and early summer (grass pollen)</i> under <i>Airborne/environmental irritants</i>
Page 40, Asset ID 71	Contact details updated (also updated in v1.3)
Various throughout, including Recommended Citation	Version and date change from to 'Version 1.1' and '2015' to 'Version 1.2' and '2016' and to 'Version 1.3' and '2017'
Various throughout	Spelling change from 'beclomethasone' to 'beclometasone', from 'eformoterol' to 'formoterol' Terminology change from 'anticholinergic bronchodilator' to 'muscarinic antagonist', from 'breath-activated inhalers' to 'breath-actuated inhalers'
Sponsors	Version 1.2 – AstraZeneca, Mundipharma and Novartis; Version 1.3 – Novartis and Boehringer Ingelheim