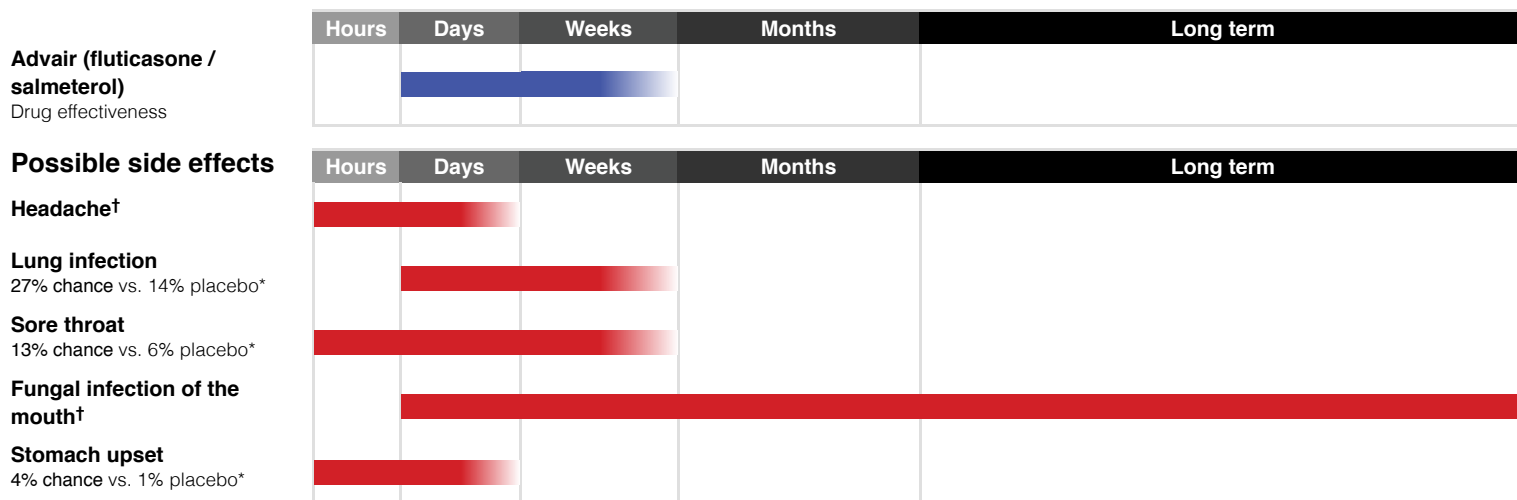


# Advair (fluticasone / salmeterol) basics

**Prevents breathing problems.** Advair (fluticasone / salmeterol) combines two medicines into one inhaler, but it might be expensive.

## What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.



\* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

## Tips from pharmacists

- You should always take it consistently to prevent asthma symptoms.
- It doesn't work to treat an ongoing asthma attack. If you have sudden trouble breathing, use your rescue inhaler instead.
- Keep the diskus inhaler in the flat horizontal position. Don't breathe out into the device, take it apart or get it wet.
- Shake the aerosol inhaler for 5 seconds before use. Pump it 4 times before inhaling the first dose, or if it's been more than a month since your last dose.
- If you're allergic to milk or protein, avoid the diskus because it contains dairy.

## Risks and warnings

The FDA has identified these as possible serious or life-threatening risks with this medication. Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

### Increased risk of death

Salmeterol, a component of Advair (fluticasone / salmeterol), increases the risk of death for some people with asthma. This is more likely to happen the longer you're on it. You should only be on it if other medicines used to control asthma haven't worked. Talk to your doctor if you have questions.

### Increased risk of infections

Advair (fluticasone / salmeterol) makes you more likely to have infections, including pneumonia. The symptoms of pneumonia can be similar to worsening signs of COPD. You shouldn't start Advair (fluticasone / salmeterol) unless you're in good health.

### Mouth and throat infection

Fluticasone, a component of Advair (fluticasone / salmeterol), can cause a fungal infection in the mouth or throat called thrush. You can prevent this by rinsing your mouth out with water and spitting the water out after each use. Tell your doctor if you notice white patches inside your mouth or throat or have difficulty swallowing.