

Patient's Instructions for Use

Flovent® Diskus® 50 mcg
(fluticasone propionate
inhalation powder, 50 mcg)

FOR ORAL INHALATION ONLY



Read this leaflet carefully before you start to take your medicine. It provides a summary of information about your medicine. Keep it for future use. Read the leaflet every time you refill your prescription because there may be new information.

For more information ask your doctor or pharmacist.

What Is FLOVENT DISKUS?

FLOVENT DISKUS contains a medicine called fluticasone propionate, which is a synthetic corticosteroid. Corticosteroids are natural substances found in the body that help fight inflammation. Corticosteroids are used to treat asthma because they reduce airway inflammation.

When inhaled regularly, corticosteroids also help to prevent symptoms of asthma.

Children should use FLOVENT DISKUS under adult supervision, as instructed by the patient's doctor.

Important Points to Remember About Using FLOVENT DISKUS

- 1. TELL YOUR DOCTOR BEFORE YOU START TAKING THIS MEDICINE if you are:**
 - pregnant or planning to become pregnant;
 - breastfeeding a baby;
 - allergic to FLOVENT DISKUS, any other medicines, or food products;

- taking a medicine containing ritonavir (commonly used to treat HIV infection or AIDS);
or
- taking other medicines, especially any other orally inhaled corticosteroid, over-the-counter medicines, and herbal products.

In some circumstances, this medicine may not be suitable for you, and your doctor may wish to give you a different medicine.

2. It is important that you inhale each dose as your doctor has advised. The prescription label provided by your pharmacist will usually tell you what dose to take and how often. If it doesn't, or if you are not sure, ask your doctor or pharmacist. **DO NOT** inhale more doses or use your FLOVENT DISKUS more often than your doctor advises.
3. FLOVENT DISKUS delivers your dose of medicine as a very fine powder **that most, but not all, patients can taste or feel**. Whether or not you are able to taste or feel your dose of medicine, you should not exceed the recommended dosage. If you are not sure you are receiving your dose of FLOVENT DISKUS, contact your doctor or pharmacist.
4. It may take 1 to 2 weeks or longer for this medicine to work, and it is **VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU USE IT REGULARLY. DO NOT STOP TREATMENT EVEN IF YOU ARE FEELING BETTER** unless told to do so by your doctor.
5. If you miss a dose, just take your next scheduled dose when it is due. **DO NOT DOUBLE** the dose.
6. This medicine is **NOT** intended to provide rapid relief of your breathing difficulties during an asthma attack. It must be taken at regular intervals as recommended by your doctor, and not as an emergency measure.
7. Your doctor may prescribe additional medication (such as bronchodilators) for emergency relief if an acute asthma attack occurs. Please contact your doctor if:
 - an asthma attack does not respond to the additional medication or
 - you require more of the additional medication than usual.
8. Long-term use of inhaled corticosteroids, including fluticasone propionate, may increase the risk of some eye problems (cataracts or glaucoma). Regular eye examinations should be considered.
9. If you also use another medicine by inhalation, you should consult your doctor for instructions on when to use it in relation to using FLOVENT DISKUS.
10. Do not use FLOVENT DISKUS with a spacer device.

How to Use Your FLOVENT DISKUS

Follow the instructions below. If you have any questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

When you take the FLOVENT DISKUS out of the box and foil overwrap pouch, write the **“Pouch opened”** and **“Use by”** dates on the label in the spaces provided on the DISKUS® inhalation unit. **The “Use by” date is 6 weeks from date of opening of the pouch.**

The DISKUS will be in the closed position when the pouch is opened.

The **dose indicator** on the top of the DISKUS tells you how many doses are left. The dose indicator number will decrease each time you use the DISKUS. After the DISKUS has delivered 55 doses (23 doses for the institutional or sample pack), numbers 5 to 0 will appear in **red** to warn you that there are only a few doses left (*see Figure 1*).

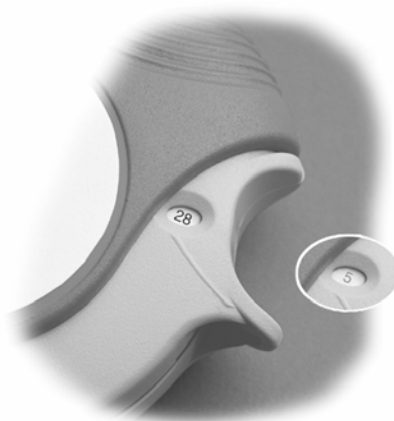


Figure 1

Taking a dose of FLOVENT DISKUS requires the following 3 simple steps: Open, Click, Inhale.

- 1 OPEN:** Hold the DISKUS in one hand and put the thumb of your other hand on the **thumbgrip**. Push your thumb away from you as far as it will go until the mouthpiece appears and the outer case snaps into position (*see Figure 2*).



Figure 2

- 2 CLICK:** Hold the DISKUS in a level, horizontal position with the mouthpiece towards you. Slide the **lever** away from you as far as it will go until it **clicks** (*see Figure 3*). The DISKUS is now ready to use.



Figure 3

Every time the **lever** is pushed back, a dose is ready to be inhaled. This is shown by a decrease in numbers on the dose counter. **To avoid releasing or wasting doses once the DISKUS is ready:**

- **Do not close the DISKUS.**
- **Do not tilt the DISKUS.**
- **Do not play with the lever.**
- **Do not advance the lever more than once.**

- 3 INHALE:** Before inhaling your dose of FLOVENT DISKUS, breathe out as far as is comfortable, holding the DISKUS level and away from your mouth (*see Figure 4*). **Remember, never breathe out into the DISKUS mouthpiece.**



Figure 4

Put the mouthpiece to your lips (*see Figure 5*). Breathe in quickly and deeply through the DISKUS, not through your nose.



Figure 5

Remove the DISKUS from your mouth. Hold your breath for about 10 seconds, or for as long as is comfortable. Breathe out slowly.

CLOSE THE DISKUS when you are finished taking a dose so that the DISKUS will be ready for you to take your next dose. Put your thumb on the thumbgrip and slide the thumbgrip back towards you as far as it will go (*see Figure 6*). The DISKUS will click shut. The lever will automatically return to its original position. The DISKUS is now ready for you to take your next scheduled dose. (Repeat steps 1 through 3.)



Figure 6

REMEMBER:

- Never exhale into the DISKUS.
- Never attempt to take the DISKUS apart.
- Always activate and use the DISKUS in a level, horizontal position.
- After you finish taking your dose, rinse your mouth with water and spit it out. Do not swallow.
- Never wash the mouthpiece or any part of the DISKUS. KEEP IT DRY.
- Always keep the DISKUS in a dry place.
- Never take an extra dose, even if you feel you did not receive a dose.

Storing Your FLOVENT DISKUS

Store at controlled room temperature, 20° to 25°C (68° to 77°F), in a dry place away from direct heat or sunlight. Keep out of reach of children. The DISKUS is not reusable. FLOVENT DISKUS should be discarded 6 weeks after removal from the moisture-protective foil overwrap pouch or after all blisters have been used (when the dose indicator reads “0”), whichever comes first. Do not attempt to take the DISKUS apart.

REMEMBER: This medicine has been prescribed for you by your doctor. **DO NOT** give this medicine to anyone else.

Further Information

This leaflet does not contain the complete information about your medicine. *If you have any questions, or are not sure about something, then you should ask your doctor or pharmacist.*

You may want to read this leaflet again. Please **DO NOT THROW IT AWAY** until you have finished your medicine.

Your doctor has determined that this product is likely to help your personal health. **USE THIS PRODUCT AS DIRECTED, UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO DO OTHERWISE BY YOUR DOCTOR.** If you have any questions about alternatives, consult with your doctor.



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