

# Asthma Medicines & Possible Side Effects

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## What kind of medicines will my doctor prescribe for my child?

Your doctor may prescribe **two different types of medicine.**

1. **Quick Relief - Quick Relief medicine is taken when your child starts having breathing problems.** These are also known as Rescue medicines or Bronchodilators.

Things to remember about Quick Relief medicine:

- **Quick Relief medicine goes straight to the lungs and works fast.**
- **It works by opening up the airways that narrow during an asthma attack.**
- After taking Quick Relief medicine your child should breathe better in about 15 minutes.
- If your child has intermittent asthma, this may be the only medicine your child will need.

2. **Controller — Controller medicine is taken every day to prevent asthma attacks.**

Things to remember about Controller medicines:

- **Controller medicine is like a vitamin, taken every day, even when your child is feeling fine.**
- Controller medicines help to reduce swelling and mucus buildup in the lungs.
- Your child's doctor may prescribe one or more of these controller medicines, depending on your child's needs.

**There are many different quick relief and controller medicines.**



[◀ How does the doctor diagnose asthma?](#)      [up](#)      [My doctor prescribed my child steroids \(also known as Corticosteroids\). Is this medicine safe for my child? ▶](#)

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