Please refer to the Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) for full details of Prescribing Information.

Qvar® Aerosol, Autohaler® and Easi-Breathe® Abbreviated Prescribing Information:

**Presentation:** Qvar® 50 and 100 Autohaler® Qvar® 50 and 100 Easi-Breathe® Inhaler. Qvar® 50 and 100 Aerosol Inhaler. Each actuation of Qvar Inhalers contains beclometasone dipropionate 50 mcg or 100 mcg ex-valve. The dose delivered from the mouthpiece is an average 37.5 micrograms for the 50mcg preparations and an average 75mcg for the 100mcg preparations. Qvar contains beclometasone dipropionate in solution in propellant HFA-134a resulting in an extrafine aerosol. **Indications:** Prophylactic management of mild, moderate or severe asthma. **Dosage and administration:** The dose should be adjusted to individual patient needs. Patients should be instructed in the proper use of their inhaler, including rinsing out their mouth with water after use. **Adults, elderly, and children over 12 years:** Starting and maintenance dose: Mild asthma: 100 to 200 mcg daily in two divided doses. Moderate asthma: 200 to 400 mcg daily in two divided doses. Severe asthma: 400 to 800 mcg daily in two divided doses. **Transferring patients from CFC beclometasone inhalers and budesonide:** Patients with well-controlled asthma: prescribe Qvar at about half current dose. Patients with poorly controlled asthma: switch from CFC-BDP or budesonide to Qvar at the same mcg for mcg dose up to 800 mcg daily. **Transferring patients from Fluticasone:** Transfer patients at the same mcg for mcg dose up to 800 mcg daily. **Children under 12 years:** No data in children under 12 years of age, hence no dosage recommendation can be made. **Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to beclometasone dipropionate or any other ingredients. **Precautions and warnings:** Use regularly. When symptoms are controlled, maintenance therapy should be reduced to the minimum effective dose. Not indicated for the immediate relief of asthma attacks or management of status asthmaticus. Advise patients to seek medical attention for review of their maintenance therapy if their asthma seems to be worsening. Patients receiving systemic steroids for long periods and/or at high doses should have stable asthma before transfer to inhaled steroids. Withdrawal of systemic steroids should be gradual. Patients should carry a steroid warning card and have adrenocortical function monitored regularly. Monitor height of children regularly. Prolonged treatment with high doses of inhaled corticosteroids, particularly higher than recommended doses, may result in clinically significant adrenal suppression. Additional systemic corticosteroid cover should be considered during periods of stress or elective surgery. Caution in patients with active or latent pulmonary tuberculosis. **Interactions:** None known. **Pregnancy and lactation:** Should only be used if the benefits outweigh the potential risks to foetus or neonate. **Effects on ability to drive and use machines:** Not relevant. **Adverse reactions:** A serious hypersensitivity reaction including oedema of the eye, face, lips and throat (angioedema) has been reported rarely. Paradoxical bronchospasm. Systemic effects may occur with inhaled steroids, particularly at high doses prescribed for prolonged periods. Possible systemic effects include Cushing’s syndrome, Cushingoid features, adrenal suppression, growth retardation in children and adolescents, decrease in bone mineral density, cataract, glaucoma, and more rarely, a range of psychological or behavioural effects including psychomotor hyperactivity, sleep disorders, anxiety, depression or aggression (particularly in children). **Common:** Hoarseness and candidiasis of the mouth and throat may occur. Taste disturbances. Pharyngitis. Consult the Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) in relation to other side-effects. **Overdose:** Acute overdose is unlikely to cause problems. Suppression of HPA function following inhalation of large amounts of the drug over a short period. Excessive doses taken over a prolonged period can produce a degree of atrophy of the adrenal cortex in addition to HPA suppression. In this event treat patient as steroid-dependent and transfer to a suitable maintenance dose of a systemic steroid such as prednisolone. Once the condition is stabilised, the patient should restart Qvar as described in the SmPC. **Further information:** AeroChamber Plus® and AeroChamber® devices are compatible with Qvar® Aerosol Inhalers. **Price:** Per 200 dose unit: Qvar® 50 Aerosol: £7.87, Qvar® 100 Aerosol: £17.21 Qvar® 50 Autohaler®: £7.87, Qvar® 100 Autohaler®: £17.21, Qvar® 50 Easi-Breathe®: £7.74, Qvar® 100 Easi-Breathe®: £16.95. **Legal category:** POM. **Marketing Authorisation**