

Acute Severe Asthma

Emergency assessment and escalation

Emergency & Resuscitation

PHYSICIAN REFERENCE

Initial

- Repeated inhaled short-acting bronchodilator; add ipratropium in severe attacks.
- Systemic corticosteroid early; oxygen to appropriate target.

Danger signs

- Silent chest, exhaustion, altered consciousness, cyanosis, hypotension, rising/normalizing PaCO₂ in a tiring patient.

Escalate

- IV magnesium can be considered in severe/refractory exacerbation; involve ICU early if deteriorating.

Clinical safety note

Use this as a memory aid, not a prescription. Verify current guidelines, local protocols, contraindications, renal/hepatic dosing, pregnancy status, interactions and patient-specific factors before treatment.