



**John Dempsey Hospital  
The University of Connecticut Health Center  
Department of Nursing  
NICU/NBN/SCN**

**Generic Name: LEVALBUTEROL (Lev-al-Byoo-ter-ol)  
Brand Name: XOPENEX (Zo-pen-X)**

### **USE OF LEVALBUTEROL:**

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Levalbuterol is a bronchodilator. It is used to treat chest tightness, shortness of breath, troubled breathing and wheezing associated with bronchospasm. Bronchospasm occurs when the bronchial tubes (air passages) of the lung close up. Levalbuterol will relax and open up the air passages to make it easier to breath.

### **CALL THE DOCTOR IF:**

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1. Your baby has a fever, chills or cough.
2. Your baby has swelling in the hands or face.
3. Your baby has trouble breathing.
4. Your baby has diarrhea or vomiting.
5. Your baby has trouble sleeping or is tired.
6. Your baby has a faster heart rate.
7. Your baby has tremors in the hands that you cannot stop.
8. Your baby has a dry mouth.

### **SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

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1. Review the 2 sections titled "**Safety**" and "**How to Use the Medicine**" in your **General Instructions for Giving Your Baby's Oral Medicine** hand out.
2. Levalbuterol is inhaled by a device called a nebulizer. The nebulizer turns the medicine into a fine mist that your baby breathes in through his/her nose and mouth.
3. Follow instructions about cleaning and caring for the nebulizer.
4. Levalbuterol comes in vials in foil pouches. Open a vial only when you are ready to use the nebulizer. Once the foil pouch has been opened the rest of the vials in the pouch should be used within 2 weeks.