

Proprietary name:	MONTASCEND
Dosage form:	Film-coated tablets
Active Ingredient:	Montelukast sodium equivalent to Montelukast
Strength per dosage unit:	10 mg per tablet

1.3.2 PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

SCHEDULING STATUS

S3

Montascend 10 mg Film-coated tablets

Montelukast sodium

Contains sugar:

Each film-coated tablet contains 89.000 mg of lactose monohydrate.

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking Montascend.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have further questions, please ask your doctor, pharmacist, nurse or other healthcare provider.
- **Montascend** has been prescribed for you personally and you should not share your medicine with other people. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Montascend is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Montascend
3. How to take Montascend
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Montascend
6. Contents of the pack and other information

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1. WHAT Montascend IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR:

Montascend is a leukotriene receptor antagonist that blocks substances called leukotrienes.

Leukotrienes cause narrowing and swelling of airways in the lungs and also cause allergy symptoms.

By blocking leukotrienes, **Montascend** improves asthma symptoms, helps control asthma and improves seasonal allergy symptoms (also known as hay fever or seasonal allergic rhinitis).

Your doctor will determine how **Montascend** should be used depending on the symptoms and severity of your asthma.

Asthma includes:

- difficulty in breathing because of narrowed airways. This narrowing of airways worsens and improves in response to various conditions.
- sensitive airways that react to many things, such as cigarette smoke, pollen, cold air, or exercise.
- swelling (inflammation) in the lining of airways.
- Coughing, wheezing, and chest tightness.

Seasonal allergies (also known as hay fever or seasonal allergic rhinitis) are an allergic response often caused by airborne pollens from trees, grasses and weeds. The symptoms of seasonal allergies typically include stuffy, runny, itchy nose; sneezing; watery, swollen and red, itchy eyes.

Your doctor has prescribed **Montascend** to treat asthma, preventing your asthma symptoms during the day and night.

- **Montascend** is used for the treatment of adults and adolescents 15 years of age and older who are not adequately controlled on their medication and need additional therapy.
- **Montascend** also helps prevent the narrowing of airways triggered by exercise.
- In those asthmatic patients in whom **Montascend** is indicated in asthma, **Montascend** can also provide symptomatic relief of seasonal allergic rhinitis.

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2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU TAKE Montascend

Do not take Montascend:

- if you are allergic (hypersensitive) to montelukast or any of the other ingredients of **Montascend** (listed in section 6: contents of the package and other information),
- if you currently under the age of 15 years,

Warnings and precautions

Special care should be taken with **Montascend**.

If your asthma or breathing gets worse, tell your doctor immediately.

Oral **Montascend** is not meant to treat acute asthma attacks. If an attack occurs, follow the instructions your doctor has given you. Always have your inhaled rescue medicine for asthma attacks with you.

It is important that you take all asthma medications prescribed by your doctor. **Montascend** should not be substituted for other asthma medications your doctor has prescribed for you.

Any patient on anti-asthma medicines should be aware that if you develop a combination of symptoms such as a flu-like illness, pins and needles or numbness of arms or legs, worsening of pulmonary symptoms, and/or rash, you should consult your doctor.

You should not take acetyl-salicylic acid (aspirin) or anti-inflammatory medicines (also known as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or NSAIDs) if they make your asthma worse.

Children and adolescents

Montascend is not to be used in children below 15 years of age.

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Other medicines and Montascend

Always tell your healthcare professional if you are taking any other medicines. (This includes complementary or traditional medicines).

Some medicines may affect how **Montascend** works, or **Montascend** may affect how other medicines work.

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken other medicines, including those obtained without a prescription.

Tell your doctor if you are taking the following medicines before starting **Montascend**:

- phenobarbital (used for treatment of epilepsy)
- phenytoin (used for treatment of epilepsy)
- rifampicin (used to treat tuberculosis and some other infections)
- gemfibrozil (used for treatment of high lipid levels in plasma)

You should also tell any doctor who is prescribing a new medicine for you that you are taking **Montascend**.

Montascend with food and drink

Montascend may be taken with or without water.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Do not take **Montascend** if you are pregnant.

Do not take **Montascend** if you are breast-feeding, because it is not known if the medicine is passed into breast milk.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine.

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Driving and using machines

Montascend is not expected to interfere with your ability to drive a car or operate machinery. However, individual responses to medication may vary. Certain side effects (such as dizziness and drowsiness) that have been reported rarely with **Montascend** may affect some patients' ability to drive or operate machinery.

Montascend contains lactose

Montascend contains a sugar called lactose. Patients with the rare hereditary conditions of lactose/fructose or galactose intolerance should not take **Montascend**.

3. HOW TO TAKE Montascend

Do not share medicines prescribed for you with any other person.

Always take **Montascend** exactly as your doctor has instructed you.

You should take only one tablet of **Montascend** once a day as prescribed by your doctor.

It should be taken even when you have no symptoms or have an acute asthma attack.

You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

For adults 15 years of age and older:

One 10 mg tablet to be taken daily in the evening. **Montascend** may be taken with or without food.

If you are taking **Montascend**, be sure that you do not take any other products that contain the same active ingredient, montelukast.

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If you take more Montascend than you should

Please contact your doctor or pharmacist immediately.

The frequently occurring symptoms reported with overdose in adults and children included abdominal pain, sleepiness, thirst, headache, vomiting, and hyperactivity.

If you forget to take Montascend

Try to take **Montascend** as prescribed. However, if you miss a dose, just resume the usual schedule of one tablet once daily

Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten tablet.

If you stop taking Montascend

Montascend can treat your asthma only if you continue to take it.

It is important to continue taking **Montascend** for as long as your doctor prescribes. It will help control your asthma.

If you have any further questions on the use of this product, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Montascend can have side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Not all side effects reported for **Montascend** are included in this leaflet. Should your general health worsen or if you experience any untoward effects while taking [**Montascend**, please consult your healthcare provider for advice.

If any of the following happens, stop taking/ using **Montascend** and tell your doctor immediately or go to the casualty department at your nearest hospital:

- allergic reactions including swelling of the face, lips, tongue, and/or throat which may cause difficulty in breathing or swallowing

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These are all serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention.

Tell your doctor if you notice the following:

Frequent side effects:

- rash, fever, headache, passing loose watery stools (diarrhoea), feeling sick (nausea) and vomiting
- upper respiratory tract infections (infection of nose, throat and airways)
- possible liver problems (due to elevated enzymes on tests)

Less frequent side effects:

- abdominal pain, heartburn, thirst, dry mouth, and other stomach problems.
- dizziness, and fits
- increased bleeding tendencies; lowered white blood cell count, nosebleed (epistaxis).
- behaviour and mood related changes (dream abnormalities, including nightmares, trouble sleeping, sleep walking, irritability, feeling anxious, restlessness, agitation including aggressive behaviour or hostility, depression; tremor, disturbance in attention, memory impairment; hallucinations, disorientation, suicidal thoughts and actions)
- muscle pain
- Churg-Strauss syndrome (symptoms include fatigue, weight loss, nasal passage inflammation, numbness, and weakness)
- heart palpitations
- inflammation of the liver (hepatitis)
- bruising, itching, increased sweating, swelling of the skin
- feeling weak and tired, feeling sick, general swelling

If you notice any side effects not mentioned in this leaflet, please inform your doctor or pharmacist.

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Reporting of side effects:

If you get side effects, talk to your doctor or, pharmacist or nurse. You can also report side effects to SAHPRA via the “**6.04 Adverse Drug Reaction Reporting Form**”, found online under SAHPRA’s publications: <https://www.sahpra.org.za/Publications/Index/8>. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of Montascend.

Alternatively, all adverse events can be reported to Ascend Laboratories via the e-mail: pharmacist.rsa@Alkem.com.

5. HOW TO STORE Montascend

Store at or below 25 °C (Room temperature).

Store in the original package. Keep the blisters in the outer carton.

Keep this medicine out of reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date stated on the carton and the blister.

Do not throw away any medicines in drains or sewage systems.

Return all unused medicine to the pharmacist.

6. CONTENTS OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION

What Montascend contains:

The active ingredient is 10 mg of montelukast sodium per film-coated tablet.

The other ingredients are Croscarmellose sodium, hydroxypropyl cellulose; lactose monohydrate, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, and coating solution, Opadry yellow 03B52874 (hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, iron oxide red, iron oxide yellow and polyethylene glycol).

What Montascend looks like and contents of the pack

Beige coloured, square shaped, biconvex, film coated tablets plain on both sides.

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Pack sizes: 14 tablets

Holder of Certificate of Registration

Ascend Laboratories (Pty) Ltd.

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121 Sovereign Drive, Block A, Office 202

Irene Ext. 30, Centurion, 0157

This leaflet was last revised in

Application Numbers

530068

Access to the corresponding Professional Information

The professional information will be included in each unit pack of the product.