Claims:

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(i) a drug component comprising beclomethasone dipropionate and formoterol fumarate dihydrate;

(ii) a propellant component at least 90 weight % of which is 1,1-difluoroethane (HFA-152a); and

(iii) ethanol,

wherein the pharmaceutical composition is a solution.

2. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the composition contains less than 500 ppm of water based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

3. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein the composition contains greater than 0.5 ppm of water based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

4. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the composition contains less than 1000 ppm of oxygen based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

5. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 4, wherein the composition contains greater than 0.5 ppm of oxygen based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

6. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the drug component additionally comprises at least one long acting muscarinic antagonist.

7. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6, wherein the at least one long acting muscarinic antagonist is selected from the group consisting of umeclidinium, ipratropium, tiotropium, aclidinium and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

8. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6, wherein the at least one long acting muscarinic antagonist is a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of glycopyrrolate, especially glycopyrronium bromide.

9. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of the preceding claims, wherein at least 95 weight % of the propellant component is 1,1-difluoroethane (HFA-152a).

10. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the propellant component is entirely 1,1-difluoroethane (HFA-152a).

11. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 9 or 10, wherein the propellant component contains from 0.5 to 10 ppm of unsaturated impurities.

12. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of the preceding claims, further comprising (iii) glycerol and wherein at least 95 weight % of the composition consists of the three components (i), (ii) and (iii).

13. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of the preceding claims which is surfactant-free.

14. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of the preceding claims which produces less than 1.5 % by weight of total impurities from the degradation of the beclomethasone dipropionate based on the total weight of the beclomethasone dipropionate and the impurities after storage in uncoated aluminium containers at 40°C and 75 % relative humidity for 1 month for amounts of ethanol up to 15 weight % based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

15. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of the preceding claims which produces less than 2.5 % by weight of total impurities from the degradation of the beclomethasone dipropionate based on the total weight of the beclomethasone dipropionate and the impurities after storage in uncoated aluminium containers at 40°C and 75 % relative humidity for 3 months for amounts of ethanol up to 15 weight % based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

16. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of the preceding claims which is free of one or more of the following: (i) perforated microstructures; (ii) pharmaceutically acceptable salts of both cromoglycic acid and nedocromil; (iii) polymers having amide and/or carboxylic acid ester repeating structural units; and (iv) acid stabilisers.

17. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of the preceding claims which is adapted to deliver the compounds making up the drug component in approximately the same proportions that they occur in the pharmaceutical composition.

18. A metered dose inhaler (MDI) fitted with a sealed and pressurised aerosol container containing a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 17.

19. A method of improving the chemical stability of a pharmaceutical solution comprising a propellant component, a drug component comprising beclomethasone dipropionate and formoterol fumarate dihydrate, and ethanol, said method comprising using as the propellant component a propellant comprising at least 90 weight % 1,1-difluoroethane (HFA-152a).

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising selecting the components and conditions for the preparation of the pharmaceutical composition to maintain the water content of the pharmaceutical composition below 500 ppm based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

21. The method of claim 19 or 20, wherein the oxygen content of the resulting pharmaceutical composition is below 1000 ppm based on the total weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

22. The method of claim 19, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 17.

23. The method of any one of claims 19 to 22, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is stabilised compared to one that uses 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane (HFA-134a) or 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane (HFA-227ea) as the propellant but which is otherwise identical.