

ADHD in Children and Adolescents

Medications

Methylphenidate type products (Schedule II drugs)						
Generic Availability	Generic Name	Brand	Strengths	Form	Max Dose	Notes
Generic available	methylphenidate HCl	Concerta	18mg, 27mg, 36mg, 54mg	Extended release tablet	Children: 54mg/day Adolescents: 72mg/day	Given once daily in the AM. Use osmotic pressure to deliver methylphenidate at a controlled rate resulting in duration action of approximately 10-12 hours. Must be swallowed whole, do not crush.
No generic available	methylphenidate transdermal system	Daytrana	10mg/9hr, 15mg/9hr, 20mg/9hr, 30mg/9hr	Transdermal patch	30mg/day	Apply to hip 2 hrs before desired effect; drug effects may persist 2-3 hours after patch removal; rotate sites; do not alter/cut patch. Total wear time should not exceed 9 hours. Total duration of action of 10-12 hrs.
Generic available	dexmethylphenidate HCl	Focalin	2.5mg, 5mg, 10mg	Tablet	20mg/day in divided doses	Give in the AM and then again no sooner than 4 hours later. Dosed twice a day. Duration of action of approximately 5-6 hours.
Generic available for 15mg, 30mg and 40mg	dexmethylphenidate HCl	Focalin XR	5mg, 10mg, 15mg, 20mg, 25mg, 30mg, 35mg, 40mg	Extended release capsule	40mg/day	Capsules can be opened and sprinkled on applesauce immediately before administering the medication. Duration of action of approximately 10-12 hours.
Generic available	methylphenidate HCl	Metadate CD	10mg, 20mg, 30mg, 40mg, 50mg, 60mg	Extended release capsule	60mg/day	Given once daily in the AM. Capsules can be opened and sprinkled on applesauce immediately before administering the medication. Duration of action of 8-12 hours.
Generic available	methylphenidate HCl	Metadate ER	20mg	Extended release tablet	60 mg/day	When transitioning from immediate release to extended release methylphenidate, combine total daily dose of the immediate release form into one dose of the extended release form to be given once in the morning. Duration of action of about 8 hours.
Generic available – for liquid only	methylphenidate HCl	Methylin	2.5mg, 5mg, 10mg chewable tablets; 5mg/5ml, 10mg/5ml oral solution	Chewable tablets or oral solution	60mg/day in divided doses	Give 30-45 minutes before breakfast and lunch. Some patients may benefit from a third dose given in the afternoon. Duration of action of 3-5 hours.
No generic available	methylphenidate HCl	Methylphenidate ER 10mg (Only one mfg therefore classified as brand)	10mg	Extended release tablet	60mg/day	When transitioning from immediate release to extended release methylphenidate, combine total daily dose of the immediate release form into one dose of the extended release form to be given once in the morning. Duration of action of about 8 hours.
No generic available	methylphenidate HCl	Quillivant XR	25mg/5mL	Reconstituted suspension	60mg/day	Given once daily in the morning without regard to food. Shake vigorously for at least 10 seconds before pouring. Store at room temperature. Good for up to 4 months after reconstituted. Duration of action up to 12 hours.
Generic available	methylphenidate HCl	Ritalin*	5mg, 10mg, 20mg	Scored tablet	60mg/day in divided doses	Give 30-45 minutes before breakfast and lunch. Some patients may benefit from a third dose given in the afternoon. Duration of action of 3-5 hours.
Generic available – excluding 10mg	methylphenidate HCl	Ritalin LA*	10mg, 20mg, 30mg, 40mg	Extended release capsule	60mg/day	Capsules can be opened and sprinkled on applesauce immediately before administering the medication. Duration of action of 8-12 hours.
Generic available	methylphenidate HCl	Ritalin SR*	20mg	Sustained release tablet	60mg/day	May use Ritalin SR when the 8 hour dosage corresponds to total prescribed immediate release dosage. Will eliminate need for midday dose. Approximate duration of action 3-8 hours.

*With both short-term and suspended, there may be variation in response in short and extended. Titrate dosing on individual basis.

- Individualize and use lowest effective dose. Re-evaluate periodically; improvement may be sustained when the drug is either temporarily or permanently discontinued.
- See product monograph or contact the company for more information. If paradoxical aggravation of symptoms or other adverse effects occur the dose should be reduced or discontinued.
- Concerta, Daytrana, Focalin, Ritalin (although Ritalin is not approved for 3-5 ages, the Preschool ADHD Treatment 2006 Study showed that low doses of Ritalin medication are effective and safe) Methylin, and Metadate CD are not recommended for children under 6 years of age. Not all medications are covered by all insurance plans. Please contact individual health plans for details on drug coverage.

ADHD in Children and Adolescents

Amphetamine type products (Schedule II drugs)						
Generic Availability	Generic Name	Brand	Strengths	Form	Max Dose	Notes
Generic available	dextroamphetamine + amphetamine	Adderall	5mg, 7.5mg, 10mg, 12.5mg, 15mg, 20mg, 30mg	Double scored immediate release tablet	40mg/day in divided doses	Give first dose on awakening; if needed, may give one or two additional doses at 4-6 hr intervals. Avoid late evening dose due to possibility of insomnia. Duration of action is approximately 4-6 hours.
Generic available	dextroamphetamine + amphetamine	Adderall XR	5mg, 10mg, 15mg, 20mg, 25mg, 30mg	Extended release capsule	Children: 30mg/day	Capsules can be opened and sprinkled on applesauce immediately before administering the medication. Duration of action is approximately 8-10 hours.
Generic available	dextroamphetamine sulfate	Dexedrine Spansule	5mg, 10mg 15mg	Extended release capsule	40mg/day	Given once daily in the AM. Duration of action of about 6-8 hours. Sprinkling is not recommended by the manufacturer.
Generic available for 5mg, 10 mg only	dextroamphetamine sulfate	Zenzedi (Formerly known as DextroStat or Dexedrine IR)	2.5mg, 5mg, 7.5mg, 10mg	Immediate release tablet	40mg/day	Given once in the AM and then every 4-6 hours. May switch patients to once daily dose of Dexedrine Spansules once titrated. Avoid late evening doses due to the possibility of insomnia. Duration of action of about 4-6 hours.
Generic available	dextroamphetamine sulfate	Procentra	5mg/5mL	Oral solution	40mg/day	Given once in the AM and then every 4-6 hours. May switch patients to once daily dose of Dexedrine Spansules once titrated. Avoid late evening doses due to the possibility of insomnia. Duration of action about 4-6 hours.
No generic available	lisdexamfetamine	Vyvanse	20mg, 30mg, 40mg, 50mg, 60mg, 70mg	Capsule	70mg/day	Given once daily in the AM. May be taken whole or contents dissolved in glass of water. Duration of action of about 10-12 hours.

Non-stimulant products (Non-controlled drugs)						
Generic Availability	Generic Name	Brand	Strengths	Form	Max Dose	Notes
Generic available	clonidine	Catapres	0.1mg, 0.2mg, 0.3mg	Immediate release tablet	<=45kg =0.3mg and >45 kg =0.4mg	Starting dose is .025 -.05 mg/day in evening. Increase by similar dose every 3-7 days, adding to morning, mid-day, possibly afternoon, and again evening doses in sequence. Heart rate and blood pressure should be monitored. Do not substitute extended-release tablet for immediate-releaser clonidine on a mg/mg basis, because of differing pharmacokinetic profiles.
No generic available	guanfacine	Intuniv	1mg, 2mg, 3mg, 4mg	Extended release tablet	4mg/day	Given once daily at the same time each day. Monitor blood pressure. Duration of action of about 10-12 hours.
Generic available	clonidine	Kapvay	0.1mg	Extended release tablet	0.4mg/day	Given once daily at bedtime; doses exceeding 0.1mg/day should be divided into two does taken in the morning and at bedtime. Clonidine is considered to be a second line agent due to potential cardiac effects. Monitor blood pressure. Duration of action of about 10-12 hours.
No generic available	atomoxetine HCl	Strattera	10mg, 18mg, 25mg, 40mg, 60mg, 80mg, 100mg	Immediate release capsule	100mg/day or 1.4mg/kg/day, whichever is less	Contraindicated in patients taking MAOIs or diagnosed with narrow angle glaucoma. Do not break capsules. This medication should be discontinued if jaundice or liver toxicity occurs. Duration of action about 10-12 hours.
Generic available	guanfacine	Tenex	1mg, 2mg	Immediate release tablet	4mg/day	Usually taken 1-2 times/day with or without food. Give at a regular time to keep a steady level in the bloodstream. Last dose may be given at bedtime to avoid being too tired during the day. Do not substitute extended-release tablet for immediate-release guanfacine on a mg/mg basis because of differing pharmacokinetic profiles. Heart rate & blood pressure should be monitored.

- Individualize and use lowest effective dose. Re-evaluate periodically; improvement may be sustained when the drug is either temporarily or permanently discontinued.
- See product monograph or contact the company for more information. If paradoxical aggravation of symptoms or other adverse effects occur the dose should be reduced or discontinued.
- Adderall, Dexedrine, and Dextrostat are not recommended for children under 3 years of age. Vyvanse is not recommended for children under 6 years of age. Not all medications are covered by all insurance plans. Please contact individual health plans for details on drug coverage.