

ADHD Medications Table

Stimulants are the first line treatment of choice for ADHD followed by Non-Stimulants, then off-label medications. We are providing this list of medications so that you can be familiar with the common medications clients may mention and hopefully be able to answer basic questions that your clients may ask. **Always refer your clients back to their diagnosticians**, appreciating that you are only able to share a layman's knowledge and what you have gained from your clients, ADHD conference presentations, current research literature, and any physicians/PA's that you have an interaction with.

We did have this table reviewed and approved by a psychiatrist who specializes in ADHD.

Overview

Stimulants	Methylphenidate Therapeutic Amphetamines (amount needed to achieve desired therapeutic outcome) Methamphetamine (Desoxyn)	Special Notes: Columns on the next pages are all estimates. Actual frequency, etc. is dependent upon what is prescribed by the physician.
Non-Stimulants	Atomoxetine Guanfacine Clonidine	Dosage levels do not indicate the severity of a person's ADHD. Dosage level is based on how sensitive the brain is to the medication.
Off-Label Medications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antidepressants Aventyl, Cymbalta, Effexor, Norpramin, Pamelor, Savella, Tofranil, Wellbutrin, Wellbutrin SR, Wellbutrin XL • Antinarcotics Nuvigil, Provigil • Antiparkinsonians Requip (ropinirole), Symmetrel (amantadine) • MAOI's Emsam (selegiline patch), Marplan, Nardil, Parnate • Appetite Suppressants Adipex-P (phentermine) 	<p>If an ADHD client is prescribed a medication that is not listed here, and told it is prescribed as a first line of ADHD treatment, that should concern you enough to encourage the client to ask his/her doctor why that medication was prescribed.</p> <p>If client is not sure of the color of the pill they should be taking, check the number on the pill to be sure they are taking the correct pill. You can find a visual ADHD Medication Guide with colors/numbers at: adhdmedicationguide.com/pdf/adhd_med_guide_092416.pdf</p> <p>If a client's medication side effect lasts more than two</p>

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weeks, recommend that they tell their doctor.

Class	Brand Name	Form	Typical Dosage (mg)	How Often Per Day	Onset of Behavioral Effect in Minutes	Approximate Duration of Action in Hours	Side Effects/ Comments
Stimulants							
Mixed Amphetamine Salts	Adderall	Short acting	5-60	2-3	20-30	4-6	Appetite ↓ Weight Loss ↑ Insomnia ↑ Irritability ↑ Agitation ↑ Dry Mouth ↑ Tremor ↑ Tics ↑ BP ↑
	Adderall XR	Long acting	10-40	1	20-30	8-12	
	Adzenys ODT						
Dextroamphetamine	Dexedrine	Short acting	2.5-15	1-3	20-30	3-6	Appetite ↓ Weight Loss ↑ Insomnia ↑ Irritability ↑ Agitation ↑ Dry Mouth ↑ Tremor ↑ Tics ↑ BP ↑
	Dexedrine Spansules (sustained release)	Long acting	5-20		45-60	6-8	
	Dextrostat	Short acting				4-6	
Lisdexamfetamine	Vyvanse	Long acting	20-70		30-60	10-13	
Dextroamphetamine	Zenzedi	Short acting	10-20				
Mixed	Evekeo	Short acting	7.5-15				

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Amphetamine							
Methylphenidate	Aptensio XR				30		
	Concerta	Long acting	18-72	1	20-30	8-14	Appetite ↓ Weight Loss ↑ Sleep Problems Irritability ↑ Tics ↑
	Daytrana Patch	Long acting	10-30	1	60-120	10-12	Skin Irritation
	Metadate CD	Intermediate acting	10-40	1	20-30	6-10	Appetite ↓ Weight Loss ↑ Sleep Problems
	Metadate ER	Intermediate acting	10-40		30	6-8	Irritability ↑ Tics ↑
	Methylin	Short acting	5-20		30	3-4	Appetite ↓
	Methylin Chewable		2.5-10		30		Weight Loss ↑
	Methylin ER	Intermediate acting	10-20		30	6-8	Sleep Problems Irritability ↑
	Quillichew				30		Tics ↑
	Quillivant XR (liquid Concerta)	Long acting			30	8-12	Appetite ↓ Weight Loss ↑ Sleep Problems Irritability ↑ Tics ↑
	Ritalin (1st used 1958)	Short acting	5-20	2-3	20-30	3-4	Appetite ↓
Ritalin LA	Intermediate	10-40	1	20-30	6-10	Weight Loss ↑	

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		acting					Sleep Problems Irritability ↑ Tics ↑
	Ritalin SR	Intermediate acting	10-40	1-2	30-60 2 nd : 4 later	4-8	
Dexmethylphenidate	Focalin	Short acting	10-20 Child 20-40 Adult	1	20-30	3-6	Appetite ↓ Weight Loss ↑ Sleep Problems Irritability ↑ Tics ↑
	Focalin XR	Long acting	10-20 Child 20-40 Adult	1	20-30 2 nd : 4 later	6-10	Appetite ↓ Weight Loss ↑ Sleep Problems Irritability ↑ Tics ↑
Non-Stimulants							
Atomoxetine (norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor)	Strattera	Long acting (Extended release)	60-100			Up to 24	Sleepiness Headache Dry Mouth Poor Appetite GI Upset 20% Urinary Flow Risk 1 st 2 months for

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Class	Brand Name	Form	Typical Dosage (mg)	How Often Per Day	Onset of Behavioral Effect in Minutes	Approximate Duration of Action in Hours	Side Effects/ Comments
							suicide
Guanfacine (alpha agonist) Not approved for adults	Tenex					6-8	Fatigue Dry Mouth Dizziness Irritability Low BP Behavior Problems
Guanfacine ER (alpha agonist) Not approved for adults	Intuniv	Long acting (Extended release)	1-4	1		Up to 24	Sleepiness Fatigue Headache Abdominal Pain Low BP
Clonidine (alpha agonist) Not approved for adults	Kapvay or Catapres	Long acting	0.1	2		4-6 (tablets) 24 (patch) 24 (tablet twice/day)	Fatigue Dry Mouth Dizziness Irritability Low BP Behavior Problems
Off-Label Medications (Minimal research regarding the effectiveness of these meds on ADHD)							
Antidepressants	Aventyl					8-24	Sleep Problems Anxiety Fatigue

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							Upset Stomach Dizziness Dry Mouth
	Cymbalta						
	Effexor						
	Norpramin					8-24	Not recommended for children
	Pamelor					8-24	Sleep Problems Anxiety Fatigue Upset Stomach Dizziness Dry Mouth
	Savella						
	Tofranil					8-24	Sleep Problems Anxiety Fatigue Upset Stomach Dizziness Dry Mouth
	Wellbutrin	Short acting	75-100	3		4-5	Sleep Problems Rare Seizure Risk
	Wellbutrin SR	Sustained release (long acting)	100, 150, 200	2		12	
	Wellbutrin XL	Extended					

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		release (long acting)	150-300	1		24	
Antinarcotics	Nuvigil		150-500		60-120	10-14	
	Provigil/Sparlon (Modafinil)		340-425		60-120	10-14	
Antiparkinsonians	Symmetrel (amantadine)						
	Requip (ropinirole)						
MAOI's (Monoamine oxidase inhibitor)	Emsam (selegiline patch)						Dangerous to use without many other meds. Best to avoid for ADHD
	Marplan						
	Nardil						
	Parnate (tranylcypromine)			1			
Appetite Suppressants	Adipex-P (phentermine)						