

Medication

In uncomplicated cases of ADHD, medication management is fairly straightforward and typically effective with minimal side effects. However, medication should never be the only treatment given for ADHD. A multimodal approach should always be used. Please access Treatment for additional information on comprehensive treatment for ADHD, and also information under treatment found in the Child and Adolescent and Adult sections.

Information on ADHD Medications

For detailed information on medication approved to treat ADHD in Canada please access:

[First line stimulant medication treatment information](#)

[Non stimulant long-acting medication treatment information](#)

[Second line immediate release medication treatment information](#)

Provincial Drug Plan Formularies

To access a document outlining which medications are covered on various provincial drug plans, please click [HERE](#) (printable PDF document format).

For National Programs Information including:

- Public Service Health Care Plan
- Canadian Forces Health Services
- Interim Federal Health Program
- Correctional Services of Canada
- Special Access Programs
- NIHB for First Nations and Inuit Populations

For BC, AB, SK and MB click [HERE](#)

For NB, NS, PEI, NFLD, YK click [HERE](#)

For ON & QU click [HERE](#)

Or Visit: [Provincial and Territorial Public Drug Benefit Programs](#)

Issues with Generic Versions of ADHD Medications

Several generic medications have been approved by Health Canada to be “bioequivalent” or interchangeable for brand name ADHD medications. There are approved generic forms of Strattera, Adderall XR and several versions of generic forms of Concerta. To-date, we have not received feedback on significant issues with the generic versions of Adderall XR or Strattera. However, since soon after its release in 2010 CADDAC has been receiving feedback on issues with generic forms of Concerta. [READ MORE](#)

Adverse Event Reporting

Health Canada is requesting that patients who have experienced a reduction in effectiveness, or increase in side effects, due to a switch to a generic medication fill out an Adverse Reaction Form. [READ MORE](#)

Please also encourage your doctors to report adverse events they see occurring in their patients. For further information on this physicians should access <https://www.caddra.ca/medical-resources/medication-updates/548-adverse-event-reporting>

Free Medication Cards that Cover the Difference between Generic and Brand Name Medications

Access co-pay assist cards for,

Concerta and Adderall XR [Here](https://www.innovicares.ca/) (https://www.innovicares.ca/)

Strattera Rxhelp [Here](http://www.rxhelp.ca.en.default.aspx) (http://www.rxhelp.ca.en.default.aspx)

CADDAC Advocacy on Generic Concerta

CADDAC has been actively advocating to Health Canada and provincial drug plans around this issue since 2010.

[Letter from CADDAC to Dr. Supriya Sharma, Health Canada – February 2010](#)

[Follow up letter from CADDAC to Dr. Supriya Sharma, Health Canada – September 2010](#)

[Feedback samples sent with Sept 2010 letter](#)

[Response from Dr. Supriya Sharma, Health Canada, October 2010](#)

2015 Survey on Experiences with Mental Health Medication/Generic Substitution

In 2015 CADDAC undertook a survey to look collect feedback on people's experiences with the substitution of generic mental health medications. To access information on why this was done, the survey's findings, the letter sent to Health Canada and Health Canada's response [READ MORE](#)

March 2016 CADDAC Receives Reply Letter from Health Canada

View the Letter [Here](#)

Recent Meeting with Health Canada Regarding Generic Concerta

On October the 31st 2016 CADDAC and CADDRA as well as other stake holders met with Health Canada to present our activities over the past six years and express our continued concerns in regards to the bioequivalency, or more accurately the lack of therapeutic equivalence, of the generic forms of the brand name ADHD medication Concerta. For a full report access the [CADDAC Blog](#).

Follow-up from Health Canada regarding Generic Forms of Concerta

This past week, a follow-up letter was received from Marion Law, the Director General of Health Canada's Therapeutic Products Directorate (TPD) addressing discussions during the Oct 31 meeting with Janssen, CADDAC and ADHD medical experts. For a full report on what Health Canada is monitoring, will be reviewing and research that it is waiting for, please access the [CADDAC Blog](#).