

TABLE 3
Medications approved by the FDA for ADHD

Generic Class/ Brand Name	Dose Form	Typical Starting Dose	FDA Max/Day
Short Acting Amphetamine preparations Adderall Dexedrine DextroStat Methylphenidate preparations Focalin Methylin Ritalin	5, 7.5, 10, 12.5, 15, 20, 30 mg tab 5 mg cap 5, 10 mg cap 2.5, 5, 10 mg cap 5, 10, 20 mg tab 5, 10, 20 mg	3-5 y: 2.4 mg q.d.; ≥6 y: 5 mg q.d.-b.i.d. 3-5 y: 2.5 mg q.d. ≥6 y: 5 mg q.d.-b.i.d. 2.5 mg b.i.d. 5 mg b.i.d. 5 mg b.i.d.	40 mg 20 mg 60 mg 60 mg
Immediate Acting Methylphenidate preparation Metadate ER Methylin ER Ritalin SR Metadate CD Ritalin LA	10, 20 mg cap 10, 20 mg cap 20 mg 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 mg 10, 20, 30, 40 mg	10 mg q.a.m. 10 mg q.a.m. 10 mg q.a.m. 20 mg q.a.m. 20 mg q.a.m.	60 mg 60 mg 60 mg 60 mg 60 mg
Long Acting Amphetamine preparations Dexedrine Spansule Adderall XR Lisdexamfetamine Methylphenidate preparations Concerta Daytrana patch Focalin XR	5, 10, 15 mg cap 5, 10, 15, 20, 30 mg cap 30, 50, 70 mg cap 18, 27, 36, 54 mg cap 10, 15, 20, 30 mg patches 5, 10, 15, 20 mg cap	≥6 y: 5-10 mg q.d.-b.i.d. ≥6 y: 10 mg q.d. 30 mg q.d. 18 mg q.a.m. Begin with 10 mg patch q.d., then titrate up by patch strength 5 mg q.a.m.	40 mg 30 mg 70 mg 72 mg 30 mg 30 mg
Selective norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor Atomoxetine Strattera	10, 18, 25, 40, 60, 80, 100 mg cap	Children and adolescents <70 kg: 0.5 mg/kg/day for 4 days; then 1 mg/kg/day for 4 days; then 1.2 mg/kg/day	Lesser of 1.4 mg/kg or 100 mg
Alpha 2 Adrenergic Agonist Guanfacine extended release Intuniv	1,2,3,4 mg tab	1mg each day, may increase 1 mg each week	Lesser of 0.12 mg/kg or 4 mg

Data for stimulants and Atomoxetine from Pliska S, Practice Parameter for The Assessment and Treatment of Children and Adolescents with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder. Journal of American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 2007 46:894.