



## Patient Information - Stimulants

<b>Medication Name (with Generic)</b>	
<b>Expected Benefits</b>	Treatment with these medicines will help with symptoms of inattention, impulsivity, and hyperactivity that are due to Attention Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder, and not due to another disorder or cause. Stimulants are used for all age groups and retain their efficiency in treating cognitive and behavioral symptoms throughout the lifespan. Examples are Ritalin, Concerta and Adderall are also used in the treatment of Narcolepsy (uncontrolled desire for sleep or sudden attacks of deep sleep). Also they are helpful in the treatment of some types of Depression in the Elderly.

<b>Alternative Treatments</b>	You may discuss these options with your physician: <table style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: top; margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>a. No treatment</td> <td>c. Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. Behavioral therapy</td> <td>d. Other: _____</td> </tr> </table>	a. No treatment	c. Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT)	b. Behavioral therapy	d. Other: _____
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<b>Warning</b>	Stimulants have a high potential for abuse, dependence and serious adverse cardiovascular effects.
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<b>Important</b>	It is very important to take your medicine as prescribed and to follow all of your physician's instructions while taking this medicine.
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<b>Side Effects *</b>	Any medication may produce unwanted side effects along with the desired results. Some side effects may appear even before the benefit from the medication is seen. If side effects do appear, they usually fade during continued treatment. Examples of side effects which may occur include:			
Frequently	Abdominal pain Irritability	Dysphoria or mild social withdrawal Weight loss or less than expected weight gain	Anorexia (decreased appetite) Insomnia	
Occasionally	Tachycardia (fast heart beat)	Chest pain	Elevation of blood pressure	Depression
Rarely	Dizziness Nightmares	Rash or hives Nausea	Anxiety Blurry vision	Lethargy & fatigue Convulsions

**\* ANY SIDE EFFECTS SHOULD BE REPORTED AND DISCUSSED WITH THE DOCTOR, NURSE, AND / OR PHARMACIST.**

<b>Interactions with other meds, natural products</b>	While in the hospital, your pharmacist and physician watch for drug interactions. If you are an outpatient, you should tell your doctor or dentist about all medication you are taking. It is very important to talk with your doctor or pharmacist to see if other medicines (including medicines obtained without prescription) can be taken safely with this medication.
<b>Cautions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You should not stop taking your medicine without first checking with your doctor. Dose should not be increased without checking with your doctors, and if dose is missed, it should be taken as soon as possible without doubling doses.</li> <li>Insomnia can be prevented by taking the last dose before 6:00 pm.</li> </ul>
<b>Food-Drug Interaction</b>	Excessive use of caffeine-containing foods or beverages (coffee, tea, cola) may cause additional Central Nervous System stimulation that feels like your heart is beating too fast.