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Pharmacy Pearls

Methylphenidate (Concerta®) Product Shortage

AHPPharmacist@urmc.rochester.edu

Reports of Methylphenidate Shortages

- The Patriot Generic product is being discontinued by the end of January 2023. Patriot is a subsidiary of Janssen who is the maker of brand Concerta®. This is having a negative impact on generic availability in the market.
- Other oral extended release forms remain sporadically available. Brand names tend to be available but cost and coverage remains a challenge for some patients.

Methylphenidate Product	Duration	Conversion from Concerta
Methylphenidate (Ritalin®) tablet	3 – 5 hours	1:1 conversion, with dose divided BID or TID
Methylphenidate (Ritalin LA®) 24 hour capsule	7 – 9 hours	1:1 conversion, given once daily
Methylphenidate CR (Metadate CD®) capsule	7 – 9 hours	1:1 conversion, given once daily
Methylphenidate (Concerta®) CR tablet	10 - 12 hours	1:1 conversion, given once daily
Methylphenidate (Daytrana®) patch	10 – 12 hours	1:1 conversion, rounding down to closest available dose, applied once daily
Dexmethylphenidate ER (Focalin®) capsules	10 – 12 hours	Reduce dose by 50%

Concerta® is the longest acting oral methylphenidate product available generically. The closest oral alternatives are the LA or CR capsules. Dexmethylphenidate ER is also an option.

Brand Concerta® and Daytrana® patches remain available, though cost and coverage may be limiting. Savings cards are to offset cost for commercially insured patients: https://www.concerta.net/ https://www.daytrana.com/myoffer.php

Convert to other methylphenidate products on a 1:1 basis and rounding down to the closest commercially available

Concerta® Dose	Methylphenidate LA or CD Dose	Daytrana® Dose	Dexmethylphenidate ER Dose
18 mg once daily	10 – 20 mg once daily	10 mg daily	10 mg once daily
27 mg once daily	20 – 30 mg once daily	15 mg daily	15 mg once daily
36 mg once daily	30 – 40 mg once daily	20 mg daily	20 mg once daily
54 mg once daily	50 mg once daily	30 mg daily	25 mg once daily

If a patient finds methylphenidate LA or CD wears off too soon, the regimen can be adjusted to add an early-afternoon dose of methylphenidate IR.