

ADDERALL IR and XR Fact Sheet
(mixed amphetamine and dextroamphetamine)

Manufacturer: Shire; IR (immediate release) version available as generic since 2003, XR marketing exclusivity expires 2009.

Indications:

- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in children and adolescents
- Narcolepsy

Mechanism: Blocks reuptake of norepinephrine and dopamine

Dosing:

- IR: Supplied as 5 mg, 7.5 mg, 10 mg, 12.5 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg, and 30 mg breakable tablets.
 - Start at 5 mg BID (usually Q 6 hours), increase gradually as tolerated. Maximum recommended dose 40 mg daily, but some patients may require 60 mg QD or more.
- XR: Supplied as 5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg, 25 mg, and 30 mg capsules (not breakable).
 - Start at 10 mg QAM and increase gradually as tolerated. Maximum recommended dose 30 mg daily, but some patients may require 60 mg QD. Adderall XR lasts about 8 hours in most people. Some patients require BID dosing for coverage into the evening.

Side effects:

- Most common are decreased appetite, weight loss, tics, and nausea.
- All stimulants are required to carry a warning about the possibility of sudden death, primarily in children with pre-existing cardiac abnormalities.
- Risk of stimulant abuse and diversion (Schedule II controlled substance).
- Growth suppression, usually mild, is possible with all stimulants.
- Pregnancy Category C.

Drug-drug interactions:

- Avoid in combination with MAOIs.

Pharmacokinetics:

- Metabolized by the liver.
- IR Lasts 4-6 hours.
- XR lasts 8-10 hours.