



RxFiles Drug Comparison Charts

12th Edition (Nov 2019)

CHART PEARLS

BY THE NUMBERS

Total pages: **244** New pages: **42** New charts: **20**
Changes: **thousands**. Charts updated **daily**, then to web/app.

NEW CHARTS

• Antibiotics: Oral & IV Expanded	p. 81-85
• Antibiotics: Beta Lactam Allergy & Harms	p. 86-87
• Antibiotics for Acute Otitis Media, Bronchitis, Pharyngitis, Sinusitis & Skin	p. 88-98
• HIV (a complete overhaul)	p. 105-106
• Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP) Management	p. 110-111
• Probiotics	p. 113-114
• Cystitis- Uncomplicated	p. 116-117
• Chronic Non-Cancer Pain (CNCP)	p. 121-124
• Opioids: Prescribing Safely & Strategies	p. 130-133
• Osteoporosis Chart (a complete overhaul)	p. 137-138
• Rheumatoid Arthritis: DMARDS (additional 2 pages)	p. 139-141
• Seizures: Antiepileptics (additional 2 pages)	p. 155-158
• Cannabinoids (additional 2 pages)	p. 199-201
• Dry Eye	p. 213-214
• Substance Use Dx / Addiction / Stimulant Use Disorder	p. 219-221
• Opioid Use Disorder	p. 222-224

SCANNING THROUGH THE CHARTS

Some Highlights Include:	Go To...
Significant revisions to DAPT/TT chart: incorporation of major trials (PIONEER , AUGUSTUS , ENTRUST , TWILIGHT); dual therapy has less bleeding risk than triple therapy, and appears to be as effective!	p.19-20
Incorporation of major SGLT-2 trials: CREDENCE , CANVAS (canagliflozin), DECLARE , DAPA-HF (dapagliflozin).	p.40-42
Update of self-monitoring blood glucose monitors and insulin pens, highlighting unique features of each product.	p.43-44
Update of HIV chart with new products (JULUCA , DOVATO), drug coverage, safety information and more.	p.105-106
Expansion of Seizure chart to include overview, clinical pearls, approach to treatment and more. (including pregnancy section)	p.155-158
Significant revisions to Multiple Sclerosis chart to include different products, treatment of disabling relapse and more.	p.148
Update of information based on guidelines and recommendations and addition of new BRANDS in Over-The-Counter chart.	p.171-174
Incorporation of AAP, NICE guidelines and recommendations in ADHD chart; stimulants are recommended 1 st line for >6yrs.	p.175-176
Incorporation of SYGMA 1/2 trial in Asthma chart, outlining the use of LABA/ICS given only prn for mild asthma.	p.191-192
Incorporation of FLAME , IMPACT trial on new COPD pathways; new TRELEGY ELLIPTA ; use of N-acetylcysteine in COPD chart.	p.193-194
Info on starting SUBOXONE , including both conventional & microdosing off-label approaches; new SUBLOCADE and PROBUPHINE ; considerations for pain management in Opioid Use Disorder chart.	p.222-224

SOME OF THE GUIDELINES REVIEWED

- **Cardiovascular:** Primary prevention ACC/AHA'19, A.fib AHA'18, CCS'18, CHEST'18, Dyslipidemia ESC'19, AHA'18, Hypertension AHA'18, ESC'18, Hypertension Canada'18
- **Diabetes:** Treatment Endo Soc'19, ADA'19, Diabetes Canada'18, Diabetes/Pre-diabetes/CVD ESC'19, A1C targets ACP'18
- **Neuro/Psych:** Migraine AAN'19, ADHD AAP'19, CADDRA'18, Parkinson's Disease, Bipolar Disorder CANMAT'18, Alcohol Use Disorder APA'18
- **Gastrointestinal:** Ulcerative Colitis ACG'19, AGA'19, Crohn's CAG, ACG'18, IBD AGA'18, IBS CAG, AGA'19, Antiemetic ASCO'17
- **Infectious Diseases:** HPV ACIP'19, Cystitis AUA/CUA/SUFU'19, Hepatitis C CASL'18, Vaccines ACIP'18, HIV IAS-USA'18, EACS'17, C. diff AMMI'18, IDSA'17
- **Others:** COPD Gold'19, CTS'19, Beers Criteria AGS'19, Multiple Sclerosis ANN'18, Erectile Dysfunction AUA'18... etc

PRICE CHANGES

Significant >10% price decrease:

- **NITRO-DUR** (all strengths): -30% → \$4-14 less/month

Significant >10% price increase:

- **IBAVYR** (all strengths): +50% → up to \$785 more/month

Moderate 5-10% price increase:

- Oral Contraceptive Pills **TRI-CYCLEN**, **TRI-CYCLEN LO**, **CYCLEN**: +9% → \$20-30 more/month
- **TYLENOL** with codeine #2, #3, #4: +9% → \$3-7 more/month
- **CONCERTA** (most strengths): +5% → \$4-6 more/month
- **ZYPREXA**, **ZYPREXA ZYDIS** (all strengths): +5% → \$3-17 more/month

NEW DRUG (BRAND NAME) ADDITIONS

ADDYI, ADYLXINE, AIMOVIG, AKYNZEO, BELSOMRA, BIKTARVY, CONTRAVE, CRESEMBA, DELSTRIGO, EVENITY, FASENRA, JULUCA, MAVENCLAD, MEZERA, MONOFERRIC, MOVAPO, OLUMIANT, ONSTRYV, ORILISSA, OZANEX, OZEMPIC, PROBUPHINE, SILIQ, SOLIQUA, STEGLUJAN, SYMTUZA, SYRIZI, TRELEGY ELLIPTA, TRUMENBA, VYZULTA, VIIBRYD, XULTOPHY, XIIDRA... **LOTS!**

STATUS & REIMBURSEMENT CHANGES

- **New generics** : **AGGRENOX**, **ATRIPLA**, **ABILIFY**, budesonide nebs, **CHAMPIX**, **COVERSYL PLUS**, **DUOTRAV**, **FOSFOMYCIN**, **HP-PAC**, hydralazine, hydromorphone, **INSPIRA**, **LEVITRA**, **MACROBID**, **MAVIK**, methimazole, perindopril, **PRADAXA**, **RENAGEL**, **SUBOXONE**, **TAMIFLU**, **TROSEC**, **ULORIC**, **VIMPA**, **VIMOVO**, **VOLIBRI**, **ZELDOX**.
- **On SK Formulary**: **BASAGLAR**, benztropine 1mg, celecoxib, ciclopirox, clonidine, **DETROL LA**, **ENSTILAR**, **HUMALOG KWIKPEN** 200IU/mL, **M-EDIAT**, **KYLEENA**, methotrexate SC inj, olanzapine, **TRESIBA**, **TRUVADA**, **VESICARE**.
- **New EDS** : **AXERT**, **BIKTARVY**, **BOTOX**, **BRILINTA** 60mg, **BRIVLERA**, **DUODOPA**, **DYSPORT**, **DYSPORT**, **ERELZI**, **FASENRA**, **GLATECH**, **HEMANGIOL**, **INVEGA TRINZA**, **KEVZARA**, **LANCORA**, **LIXIANA**, **MICTORYL PEDIATRIC**, **MOVAPO**, **NUCALA**, **OCALIVA**, **OCREVUS**, **ODEFSEY**, **PRALUENT**, **REPETHA**, **PROBUPHINE**, **PROCYMBI**, **QUINSAIR**, **RAVICTI**, **RENFLXIS**, **REXULTI**, **SILIQ**, **STELARA**, **SYNJARDY**, **TALTZ**, **UPTRAVI**, **VOSEVI**.
- **New full NIHB** : **ADDERALL**, **AVODART**, **BASAGLAR**, **BIANCA**, **DETROL LA**, **DITROPAN XL**, **ENSTILAR**, **ENTOCORT** 3mg, **EPURIS**, **JARDIANCE**, **JULUCA**, **KYLEENA**, **LAMAS** for COPD (**SPIRIVA**, **TUDORZA**, **SEEBRI**, **INCRUSE**), **LAMA+LABA** combo for COPD (**DUAKLIR**, **ULTIBRO**, **INSPIRLO**, **ANORO**), methotrexate SC inj, **MEZERA**, **MICTORYL PEDIATRIC**, **NICORETTE QUICKMIST**, **ODEFSEY**, osetamivir, **OZEMPIC**, **PROSCAR**, **REXULTI**, **SYNJARDY**, **TUOJEO**, **TRESIBA**, **TRILEPTAL**, **ZOMIG** **SPRAY** (used when has SPDP restrictions).
- **New prior NIHB approval** : **ADEMPAS**, **AFINITOR**, **ANDRODERM**, **ANDROGEL**, **BOSULIF**, **BRIVLERA**, **CAYSTON**, **COLY-MYCIN**, **COSENTYX**, **DIFICID**, **ENTYVIO**, **ERELZI**, **ESBRIET**, **HEMANGIOL**, **IBRANCE**, **IMBRUVICA**, **INLYTA**, **INVEGA TRINZA**, **JAKAVI**, **LANCORA**, **LIXIANA**, **MAVIRET**, 11 Multiple sclerosis drugs, **NUCALA**, **OCREVUS**, **PRALUENT**, **RENFLXIS**, **RENVELA**, **REPETHA**, **rotigotine**, **SILIQ**, **STIVARGA**, **TANTUM**, **TALTZ**, **TASIGNA**, **tenofovir**, **TESTIM**, **UPTRAVI**, **VOSEVI**, **XALKORI**, **XIGDUO**.

OUTCOME EVIDENCE FROM MAJOR TRIALS

Major outcome trials & drug dosages used are often noted on charts when pertinent. Relatively recent:

CARES (Allopurinol vs febuxostat in gout+CVD patients), **COMPASS** (Rivaroxaban+ASA for 2^o CVD prevention), **FOURIER** (Evolocumab effect on CV events), **IMPACT** (Trelegy vs Bre or Anoro for COPD), **ODYSSEY** (Alirocumab in ACS patients), **RE-DUAL PCI** (dabigatran+clopidogrel vs triple therapy with warfarin) **SPACE** (Opioid vs nonopioid in tx of CNCP), **TARDIS** (triple antiplatelet therapy vs standard for stroke), **TRUST** (levothyroxine in older pts with subclinical hypothyroidism), & **VERO** (teriparatide vs risedronate in PMO osteoporosis).



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RECENT ADVERSE REACTION ADVISORY

Health Canada [Advisories, Warnings and Recalls - Health Canada](#) & FDA

- **Vaping Products** Sept/19: potential risk of pulmonary illness
- **Modafinil** June/19: associated with cases of major fetal congenital malformations when used in pregnancy; now **CI** in pregnancy
- **Gentian Violet** June/19: exposure may ↑CA risk; advised to stop use
- **Tocilizumab** May/19: serious drug-induced liver injury reported
- **Belimumab** Apr/19: depression, suicidal ideation or behavior and self-injury reported more frequently vs. standard therapy
- **Daratumumab** Mar/19: hepatitis B virus reactivation reported
- **Atezolizumab** Mar/19: immune-related myositis reported
- **Hydrochlorothiazide** Jan/19: prolonged use may ↑non-melanoma skin cancer risk
- **Rivaroxaban** Dec/18: ↑all-cause mortality, thromboembolic and bleeding events after transcatheter aortic valve replacement
- **Ranitidine Products** Sept/19: concerns of NDMA contamination

PICTURES & COLORS SPEAK A 1000 WORDS...

Colours used within the Charts

Green shading usually indicates HERBAL/LIFESTYLE related
Blue shading usually indicates PEDIATRIC related
Dark Blue shading usually indicates ADOLESCENT related
Tan shading usually indicates ELDERLY related
Purple script usually indicates TRADE NAMES
Yellow highlights CLINICAL DIFFERENCES, PRACTICE GAPS & COMMON ?'s
Blue script usually indicates MAJOR TRIALS
Pink script usually indicates PREGNANCY & LACTATION related
Red shading usually indicates official FDA black box or HC warning
Gray script usually indicates DISCONTINUED drug
Purple shading usually indicates OVERVIEW/GUIDELINE approach

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SYMBOLS

	Canada (We are Canadian)
	Non-formulary in Saskatchewan
	Exception Drug Status (EDS) in Saskatchewan (SK) (1-800-667-2549)
	Not covered by NIHB (Non-Insured Health Benefits) https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/services/non-insured-health-benefits/first-nations-inuit/benefits-services-under-non-insured-health-benefits-program/drugs-pharmacy-benefits/drug-benefit-list.html
	Prior approval required by NIHB . Coverage for eligible First Nations & Inuit (1-800-580-0950)
	Covered by NIHB. Identified ONLY for those drugs which have SK Formulary restrictions such as EDS or non-formulary status .
	Retail <i>Cost to Consumer</i> price based on acquisition cost, markup & dispensing fee in Saskatchewan. Lowest generic price use when where available.
	Full medication coverage by the Saskatchewan Cancer Centre
	Warfarin interactions on the herbal chart
	Tablet is scored. Appears as superscript, e.g. 25 [°] mg tablet.
	Tastes good
	Concern if drug or herbal is given Pre-Op
	Avoid if patient has soybean & peanut allergy
	Male
	Female
	Dose ↓ may be required for liver dysfunction
	Dose ↓ required for renal dysfunction if 1) drug ≥ 75% renal excretion 2) toxic if accumulates 3) an active metabolite requiring dose adjustment. [CrCl <60mL/min indicates impaired renal function]

COMMONLY USED ABBREVIATIONS

AE	Adverse event
BID	Twice daily
BP	Blood pressure
Bz	Benzodiazepine
CI	Contraindication
CV	Cardiovascular
DI	Drug interaction
Dx	Diagnosis/disease
HSR	Hypersensitivity reaction
LFT	Liver function tests
M	Monitoring
OTC	Over the counter
P	Porphyria
QID	Four times daily
eGFR	Estimated glomerular filtration rate
g	Generic available
GI	Gastrointestinal
HA	Headache
HF	Heart failure
HR	Heart rate
HS	Bedtime
SCr	Serum creatinine
SJS	Stevens Johnson Syndrome
Sx	Syndrome/symptom
Sz	Seizure
TID	Three times daily
Tx	Treatment/Therapy

DRUGS IN PREGNANCY & LACTATION RISK CATEGORIES

PREGNANCY [P]	LACTATION [L]
Safe P	Safe L
• Compatible in pregnancy	• Compatible in breastfeeding
Likely Safe P	Likely Safe L
• No (limited) human data – probably compatible • Compatible: maternal benefit >> embryo-fetal risk • Human data suggest low risk	• No (limited) human data – probably compatible
Caution P	Caution L
• Human, and or animal, data suggest risk P • Potential risk in specific trimester(s), as indicated by 'x' Px	• Hold/delay breastfeeding • No (limited) human data – potential toxicity
Contraindicated P	Contraindicated L
• Contraindicated in pregnancy P • Contraindicated in specific trimester(s), as indicated by 'x' Px	• Contraindicated in breastfeeding
Unknown for Pregnancy P and/or Lactation L	
• No (limited) human data – no relevant animal data	
Reference: Drugs in Pregnancy and Lactation. 11 th ed. Briggs GG, Freeman RK, Towers CV, Forinash AB, editors. Williams & Wilkins; Philadelphia, PA: 2017.	

What you'll see in the charts:
P = pregnancy L = lactation risk category
Colours correspond to risk categories outlined in this table. Example, warfarin:
P = contraindicated 1st trimester
L = compatible during lactation

