



RxFiles Drug Comparison Charts

15th Edition (Aug 2025)

CHART PEARLS

BY THE NUMBERS

Total pages: **258**, new chart pages: **16**, changes: **thousands**, charts updated **daily!**

NEW AND REVAMPED CHARTS

Title		Page
Lipid Lowering Therapy: Overview and Drug Comparison		29-30
Weight Loss Approaches with Colour Comparison		58-60
Pain	Top Pain Clinical Pearls	125
	Chronic Pain: Assessment and Management	127-128
	Navigating Conversations about Pain Management	129-130
	Acute Pain Chart	135
Migraine Prophylaxis Colour Comparison		158
Parkinson's Disease		167-170
Menopause	Menopause	183-186
	Menopause Hormone Therapy: Trial Evidence Summary	187-188

SCANNING THROUGH THE CHARTS

Chart	Notable Highlights	Page
Hypertension	↓ BP threshold for initiating treatment in low-risk patients (consider treatment for BP>140/90mmHg); BB no longer recommended in uncomplicated HTN.	9
Oral Antithrombotics	Ticagrelor evidence ⁶⁻⁸ PLATO : significant data integrity issues found, raising serious concerns for reliability of both benefit and safety of ticagrelor (e.g. as compared to clopidogrel). BMJ Investigation 2025 To be continued...	13
Post-Myocardial Infarction	β-blocker interruption post-MI: no difference in MACE (but ↑ BP, ↑ HR, and ↑ hospitalization for CV events, especially if HTN). ABYSS 2 analysis	31
Crohn's Disease	ACG '25: Lower maintenance dose suggested for azathioprine (AZA) and mercaptopurine (6MP) ; genetic testing recommended for AZA and 6MP.	75
Migraine	Calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP) receptor antagonists (e.g. rimegepant or ubrogepant) can be used for acute migraines; anti-CGRP (e.g. atogepant or fremanezumab) are 1 st line for migraine prophylaxis ; effective and well-tolerated, yet ↑ cost.	155

SELECT GUIDELINES INCORPORATED INTO CHARTS

Depression CANMAT '23	H. Pylori ACG '24	Hirsutism SOGC '23
Stable COPD CTS '23	COPD GOLD Report '25	Hypertension Hypertension Canada '25
Crohn's Disease ACG '25	Restless Leg Syndrome AASM '25	Acute Coronary Syndrome AHA '25
Female Stress Urinary Incontinence CDN '24 CUA	Acute Episodic Migraine Headache ACP '25	Osteoporosis and Fractures OP CDN '23

OUTCOME EVIDENCE FROM MAJOR TRIALS

Major outcome trials & drug dosages used are often noted on charts when pertinent. Relatively recent examples:		Page
FINEARTS-HF 2024	Finerenone KERENDIA versus placebo in patients with mildly reduced or HFrEF.	23
LODESTAR 2024	Treat-to-target versus high-intensity statins in patients with coronary artery disease.	29
FLOW 2025	The renal & CV effects of semaglutide OZEMPIC versus placebo in patients with T2DM and CKD.	45
FIDELITY 2025	FIGARO-DKD 2025 Finerenone KERENDIA in reducing CV mortality and morbidity in diabetic kidney disease.	45
	FIDELIO-DKD 2025 Effect of finerenone KERENDIA on chronic kidney disease outcomes in T2DM.	45
SELECT 2024	Semaglutide OZEMPIC versus placebo in patients with obesity without diabetes.	59

NOTABLE PRICE CHANGES

Price Increases (\$/30 days)			
Drug	Past	Present	Page
Verapamil SR 240mg BID, g	\$43	\$123	2
Propafenone 150mg TID, g	\$20	\$76	21
Fluvoxamine 200mg BID, g	\$35	\$74	190
Methylphenidate SR 60mg/day, g	\$38	\$77	195
Price Decreases (\$/30 days)			
Drug	Past	Present	Page
Edoxaban LIXIANA 60 mg daily, g	\$107	\$34, g	14
Timolol/Brimonidine COMBIGAN (0.5%/0.2%) 1 gtt q12hr, g	\$48	\$36, g	39
Naloxone 4mg/0.1mg nasal spray, g	\$185	\$74	142
Lisdexamfetamine VYVANSE 20mg/day, g	\$103	\$33, g	195

SELECT ADDITIONS OF NEW DRUGS BY BRAND NAME

ASIMTUFI	ACCRUFER	AWIQLI	CAPVAXIVE	MOUNJARO
OMLYCLO	QUILLIVANT	JUBBONTI	WYOST	STEQEYMA
WEZLANA	TRIMBOW	VEOZAH	QUVIVIQ	REBYOTA
OMVOH	ABRYSO	EPIDIOLEX	MYFEMBREE	NURTEC

...AND MANY MORE!





































SELECT FORMULARY CHANGES

- Newly Approved Canadian Drugs**
Tirzepatide **ZEPBOUND** for wt loss (**ZEPBOUND** not yet marketed as of Aug 2025)
- New Generics:**
eslicarbazepine
lisdexamfetamine
ipratropium HFA
cabergoline
rupatadine
fluoxetine soln
vilazodone
ethosuximide
bisoprolol 1.25/2.5mg
edoxaban
sitagliptin/metformin
- New SK Full Formulary:**
cefixime, g
MEZERA
PROMETRIUM
cefprozil, g
OCTASA
BIJUVA
cefuroxime, g
SUBLOCADE
TIVICAY
dapagliflozin, g
TRESIBA
XIGDUO
IMVEXXY
SLYND
- New SK EDS 🏠:**
BIMZELX
KERENDIA
VEKLURY
DEXCOM G7
OMVOH
VERQUVO
EPIDIOLEX
OZANIMOD
VRAYLER
EVENITY
REMSIMA
XCOPRI
IXIFI
RINVOQ ER
BENLYSTA
- New NIHB Open Benefit ▼:**
dapagliflozin, g
MEZERA
UCERIS
INVOKANA
STRATTERA
VEKLURY
APRETUDE
PAXLOVID
ELLA
IMVEXXY
SLYND
VIMPAT
JANUMET
OCTASA
LATUDA
- New NIHB Prior Approval ⚡:**
BENLYSTA
JAMTEKI
NUCALA
BIMZELX
JUBBONTI
PAXLOVID
DEXCOM G7
KERENDIA
RYMTI
EVENITY
LIVTENCITY
SKYRIZI
IXIFI
OMVOH
XYDALBA

RECENT ADVERSE REACTION ADVISORY

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













Date	Adverse Reaction	Page
03/24	Ezetimibe EZETROL may cause serious adverse reactions such as drug-induced liver injury and severe cutaneous adverse reactions (e.g. SJS, TEN, and DRESS).	30
03/25	There may be a possible link between isotretinoin ACCUTANE use and risk of sacroiliitis.	34
01/24	Post-marketing reports of serious psychiatric symptoms (e.g. depression, suicidal ideation, self-harm) in patients treated with finasteride PROPECIA/PROSCAR that sometimes continued after discontinuation.	84
03/25	Patients treated with leflunomide ARAVA may have impaired wound healing after surgery.	191

SYMBOL LEGEND					
	Canadian product (we are Canadian)			USA product/dosing	
	Non-formulary in Saskatchewan				
	Exception Drug Status (EDS) in Saskatchewan (SK) (1-800-667-2549)				
	Not covered by Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB)				
	Prior approval required by NIHB . Coverage for eligible First Nations & Inuit (1-800-580-0950)				
	Covered by NIHB. Identified ONLY for those drugs that are open benefit on NIHB yet have SK Formulary restrictions such as EDS or non-formulary status .				
	On SK Cancer Agency Formulary			SK Aid to Independent Living (SAIL) Program	
	Refrigerate		NIHB Pall. Care		Pleasant taste
	Health Canada official indication				
	Can open & sprinkle contents of capsule				
	Adverse event				
	Drug interaction (see also page 229)				
	Contraindication / Contraindicated				
	Monitoring / Monitor				
	Retail <i>cost to consumer</i> based on acquisition cost, markup, & dispensing fee in Saskatchewan. Lowest generic price used where available.				
	Tablet is scored. Appears as superscript, e.g. 25 ^s mg tablet				
	Porphyria				
	Concern if drug or herbal is given Pre-Op				
	Generic/biosimilar product available				
	Biological female			Biological male	
	Decrease / Increase			Neutral	
	Number Needed to Treat			Number Needed to Harm	
	Inhibitor / antagonist			Inducer / agonist	
	Avoid if patient has soybean or peanut allergy				
	Check our website for Online Extras (www.RxFiles.ca)				
	Environmental / Eco-considerations				
	Dose ↓ may be required for liver dysfunction or if liver toxicity				
	Dose ↓ required for renal dysfunction <u>if</u> : 1. Drug ≥ 75% renal excretion 2. Toxic if accumulates 3. An active metabolite requiring dose adjustment. [CrCl <60mL/min indicates impaired renal function]				

COLOURS USED WITHIN THE CHARTS

Yellow highlights CLINICAL DIFFERENCES, PRACTICE GAPS, & COMMON ?'s
Green shading usually indicates HERBAL/LIFESTYLE related
Light Blue shading usually indicates PEDIATRIC related
Dark Blue shading usually indicates ADOLESCENT related
Tan shading usually indicates GERIATRIC/OLDER ADULTS related
Purple shading usually indicates an APPROACH TO THERAPY
Red shading usually indicates official FDA black box or HC warning
Pink script / shading usually indicates PREGNANCY & LACTATION related
Purple script usually indicates TRADE NAMES (@ implied)
Blue script usually indicates MAJOR TRIALS
Gray script usually indicates DISCONTINUED drug

DRUGS IN PREGNANCY/LACTATION RISK CATEGORIES

Pregnancy [P] Risk Category *	Lactation [L] Risk Category *
Safe 	Safe 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compatible in pregnancy (unproven associations possible) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compatible in breastfeeding
Likely Safe 	Likely Safe 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No/Limited human data – probably compatible Compatible maternal benefit >> embryo-fetal risk Human data suggests low risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No/Limited human data – probably compatible
Caution 	Caution 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human and/or animal data suggest risk Potential risk in specific trimester(s), as indicated by “x” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold/delay breastfeeding No/limited human data – potential toxicity
Contraindicated 	Contraindicated 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contraindicated in pregnancy Contraindicated in specific trimester(s), as indicated by “x” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contraindicated in breastfeeding
Unknown 	Unknown 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No/limited human data – no relevant animal data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No/limited human data – no relevant animal data

What You Will See in the Charts:

- Colours correspond to risk categories outlined in this table. Subscript denotes trimester specific info.
- Example: Warfarin

 = Contraindicated in 1st trimester  = Compatible in lactation

* RxFiles risk categories are based on the following resources, in addition to primary literature and expert opinion.

Drugs in Pregnancy and Lactation.
12th ed. Briggs GG, Freeman RK,
Towers CV et al. Wolters Kluwer; 2021
LactMed
Healthy Pregnancy Hub

Medications & Mothers' Milk
2025. BUMPS (Best Use of
Medicines in Pregnancy)
MotherToBaby
Lexicomp

Pregnancy
Exposure
Registries
e-CPS
etc.

CONTACT INFO AND MORE RESOURCES

RxFiles Academic Detailing

University of Saskatchewan TEL: 306-966-5972
College of Pharmacy & Nutrition FAX: 306-966-5387
Room E2104, 104 Clinic Place, S7N 2Z4 EMAIL: info@rxfiles.ca
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada www.RxFiles.ca

GERI-RxFILES 4th Edition

Assessing Medications with Older Adults
Alternatives to explore, when less may be more
2024
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