

# RxFiles – Drug Comparison Charts

## 8th Edition (2010-2011)

c/o Saskatoon City Hospital, 701 Queen Street, Saskatoon, SK Canada S7K 0M7  
 TEL: (306) 655-8505 FAX: (306) 655-7980 www.RxFiles.ca



### CHART PEARLS 8<sup>th</sup> Edition



Once again our drug comparison charts have been updated & expanded. Here are the highlights.

#### Selected Revisions

##### ANTIPLATELET & ANTITHROMBOTIC CHART

p10-11

- **PROFESS** demonstrates **AGGRENOX** is similar to **PLAVIX**
- **ACTIVE A & W: PLAVIX** & ASA; vs ASA or warfarin alone; combo less effective than warfarin yet similar bleeding
- New drugs: dabigatran **PRADAX**, rivaroxaban **XARELTO**
- ASA pre-op considerations; *to stop ASA or continue pre-op*

##### LIPID CHART

p 15

- **EZETROL** uncertainty re. efficacy **ENHANCE** & cancer **SEAS**
- **CRESTOR** shows benefit for 1° prevention with ↑ hsCRP **JUPITER**
- Fenofibrate no 1° benefit when added to simvastatin ≤40mg **ACCORD-Lipid**

##### DIABETES CHARTS

p 24-31

- Incorporate new CDA guidelines Sept 2008, ADA 2010
- Added **JANUVIA**, **ONGLYZA** & **VICTOZA** to chart
- TZD concerns: HF, ↑ weight & fractures **DREAM, ADOPT**
- ↑ mortality concern with aggressive A1C lowering **ACCORD**
- Managing hypoglycemia, sick days, exercise, SMBG...
- New insulin considerations: Detemir **LEVEMIR**, Glargine **LANTUS**

##### SMOKING CESSATION CHART

p 115

- Added varenicline **CHAMPIX** with note of both potential advantages and uncertainties.

#### Aspirin: Primary Prevention

Carefully assess bleeding risk vs cardiovascular benefit in primary prevention of cardiovascular events. The USPSTF 2009 suggests the use of aspirin in males to ↓MI between the ages of 45-79yr, & in females to ↓stroke between the ages of 55-79yr. The **AAA**, **JPAD** & **POPADAD** trials have shown disappointing results for aspirin in the area of diabetes & peripheral arterial disease. The use of aspirin for secondary prevention has strong evidence for benefit.

#### New Charts - 14 in all

- **Glucose Self Monitoring (SMBG) & Meters** Pg 26
- **Insulin Delivery Devices: Pens** Pg 27
- **Thyroid: Hypo & Hyperthyroid** Pg 34-35
- **Sexual Dysfunction** Pg 47
- **Adult Vaccine Chart** Pg 50
- **Antifungal Treatment Chart** Pg 51-53
- **Anti-infectives for Common Infections** Pg 54-55
- **Osteoporosis Treatment Chart** Pg 71-72
- **CKD: Trials, Erythropoetin, Iron** Pg 118-121
- **Phosphate Binders Chart** Pg 121 a,b
- **Substance Abuse Chart** Pg 124-125
- **Transplantation Chart** Pg 126-127

#### New Drug Additions

Abilify, Actemra, Aleve, Angeliq, Apri, Azarga, Brevibloc, Cervarix, Cimzia, Doribax, Effient, Fosavance, Gardasil, Invanz, Janumet, Jurnista, Lax-A-Day, Olmetec, Onglyza, Plevnar 13, Pristiq, Prolia, Saphris, Simponi, Toviaz, Tygacil, Victoza, Vimpat, Vyvanse, Xarelto, Zeldox & Zostavax.

#### Scanning Through The Charts

- **Antihypertensives** – updated guidelines <sup>2010 Canadian</sup> p 6-7
- **Anti-infectives:** viral acute sinusitis & bronchitis p 55
- **Community Acquired Pneumonia:** added guidelines p 62
- **NSAID/COXIB:** Systematic review of ↑ CV risk p 69
- **Opioid Chart:** new fentanyl 12ug patch; **ZYTRAM** p 70
- **Oral Contraceptive:** **YAZ**, generics & missed pills p 87
- **OTC:** new cough guidelines; strengthen warning regarding cough/cold products in age <6yrs p 94, probiotic comments p 56 & p 95, updated Vit B<sub>12</sub> & calcium info p 97

#### Herbal / Drug Interactions Chart:

→ WebLink [www.mskcc.org/aboutherbs](http://www.mskcc.org/aboutherbs) plus updated info for Co-enzyme Q10, ginseng, glucosamine, green tea, saw palmetto & St John's wort. (See also Weight-loss Herbal Chart <sup>p32</sup>)  
 New herb symbols: ♣ Likely safe & ♠ Possibly safe p 92-93

#### \$ Comparisons <sup>/30day</sup> that caught our



##### Proton Pump Inhibitors (PPIs) - Page 41

- Rabepazole **ARIET** 2x10mg od or 20mg od **\$37** ⬇
  - Omeprazole **Apo-omeprazole** 20mg od **\$43** ⬇
- (New: generic lansoprazole <sup>\$57</sup> & pantoprazole <sup>\$52</sup>)

##### Atypical Antipsychotics – HS, Low Dosing – Page 108

- Quetiapine **SEROQUEL** 25-50mg hs **\$19-30**
- Risperidone **RISPERDAL** 0.5-1mg hs **\$22-27**
- Olanzapine **ZYPREXA** 2.5-5mg hs **\$37-66** ⬇

##### Substantially **REDUCED** Saskatchewan Formulary Cost

- Allesse generic=**Aviane** & Min-Ovral generic=**Portia** **\$170**
  - amlodipine generic **Norvasc** 10mg od **\$75→\$35**
  - diltiazem generic **Tiazac** 300mg od **\$75<sup>reg TIAZAC</sup>→\$44**
  - fentanyl generic **Fentanyl** 25ug <sup>patch q3day</sup> **\$130→\$72** ⬇
  - pramipexole generic **Mirapex** 1mg tid **\$230→\$133**
  - ramipril generic **Ramipril** 10mg od **\$43→\$29**
  - quetiapine generic **Seroquel** 600mg po hs **\$277→\$185**
  - ranitidine generic 150mg po bid **\$27→\$20**
  - risperidone generic **Risperidone** 2mg po bid **\$180→\$87**
  - ropinirole generic **Requip** 2mg tid **\$141→\$69**
  - sumatriptan generic <sup>Imitrex</sup> 50mg po x6dose **\$113→\$67** ⬇
  - venlafaxine generic **Venlafaxine XR** 150mg XR od **\$76→\$48**
- Also: Diprolene glycol, nifedipine XL, pioglitazone & voriconazole

##### Substantially **INCREASED** Saskatchewan Formulary Cost

adapalene, Bactrim susp, BCP's, Benzamycin, cephalixin susp, diclofenac SR, Enbrel, Estrogel, flunarizine, Humira, hydralazine, labetalol, mefenamic acid, oxcarbazepine, Prometrium, Remicade, Tysabri & Vagifem.



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- Updated charts available to those with subscription.
- Links / Program Information / References / Search Feature / Online Store
- RxFiles *Email Notification* of new postings.

### Recent Adverse Reaction Advisories <sup>1</sup>

- **Abacavir**: potential risk of increased cardiac events <sup>D:A:D</sup>
- **ADHD meds**: rare cardiac & psychiatric adverse events
- **Alli**: internet counterfeit versions may contain sibutramine
- **Benzodiazepines**: sleep related behaviour changes
- **Bupropion & Varenicline**: potential suicide risk
- **Carbamazepine**: ↑Skin SE <sub>SJS,TEN</sub> in Asians with HLA-B\*1502
- **Ceftriaxone**: fatal calcium precipitates in lung & kidneys
- **Desmopressin**: intranasal forms -fatal hyponatremia in **kids**
- **Herbal products**: some **adulterated** with sibutramine <sup>for ↓weight,</sup> sildenafil <sup>for erectile dysfunction</sup> & benzodiazepines <sup>for sleep</sup>
- **Lamictal**: ↑risk of non-syndromic oral clefts
- **Modafinil**: severe skin reactions <sub>SJS,TEN</sub> & hypersensitivity
- **Natalizumab**: hypersensitivity, liver injury & 42 PML cases
- **Orlistat**: cases of ↑ LFT's
- **Raloxifene**: ↑ risk of stroke mortality from the **Ruth** trial
- **Remicade**: possible hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma in kids
- **Rituximab**: reports of PML <sup>Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy</sup>
- **Rosiglitazone**: ↑ cardiac concerns (?MI & heart failure)
- **Sibutramine**: ↑ cardiovascular risk
- **Sitagliptin**: potential for pancreatitis
- **Stalevo**: potential ↑ prostate cancer risk <sup>STRIDE-PD</sup>
- **Tamiflu**: hallucinations & abnormal behaviour <sup>including self harm</sup>
- **TNF agents**: potential risk of increased cancer
- **Zinc**: blood dyscrasias (eg. with Poli-Grip)
- **Zyprexa**: ↑ weight & lipids in **kids**

### Outcome Evidence from MAJOR Trials

Major outcome trials & dosages used are often noted on charts when available. *Caution-small print!*

{Recent: **Bafta**, **Profess**, **Rely**, **Active A & W** (p. 10-11), **I-Preserve** (p. 13), **Aurora**, **Astronomer**, **Enhance**, **Jupiter** (p.15), **Accord**, **Advance** & **Proactive** (p. 25 & 30), **Nice-Sugar** (p. 29), **Navigator**, **VADT** (p. 30), **Horizon** (p. 72), **Balance** (p. 102), **Inspire** & **Torch** (p. 113), & **Treat** (p. 119).}

### From the Archives...A Little RxFiles Chart History

RxFiles is celebrating 13+ years of academic detailing in Saskatchewan. Our first newsletters were supplemented by a drug comparison chart. These charts were soon to be found posted on physician's walls and showing up in MD & PharmD required reading packages. We found that they allowed a lot of latitude for broad discussion of almost any drug question that could come up in an academic detailing visit. Although the charts push the margins of page protocol, many who learn to use seem to like them. Although they're not for everyone, we hope you ... *Enjoy the charts!!! TBC*

See also **RxFiles Overview/Perspectives** <sup>pg 123</sup>

In the book or check it out online at:

<http://www.rxfiles.ca/rxfiles/uploads/documents/CHT-RxFiles-Overview-and-Perspectives.pdf>



### Status/Modifications/Reimbursement Changes:

On Saskatchewan formulary: Bisoprolol, Concerta, Nuvaring & Yaz.

**New EDS** ☹️: generics (for clozapine, fentanyl patch), Actonel 150mg,

Advagraf, Atripla, Cymbalta, Enablex, Fosavance, Isentress, Levemir, Lyrica, pantoprazole, rabeprazole, Strattera Trosec & Vesicare

**New generics** ⚡: alendronate 70mg tab, Alphagan P, amlodipine, azithromycin,

lansoprazole, levofloxacin, memantine, naratriptan, olanzapine, pantoprazole, pioglitazone, raloxifene, ramipril, risperidone, rivastigmine, ropinirole, sumatriptan, testosterone, topiramate, Tramacet & venlafaxine.

**New full NIHB** ▼: Altace HCT, Alvesco, Aviane, Axert, bisoprolol, Caduet,

carvedilol, Champix, darunavir, DDAVP <sup>Melt</sup>, Lescol 80mg <sup>XL</sup>, Olmetec, Portia, Remeron, Reyataz, Risperdal M-tabs, selegiline, tamsulosin & Xatral.

**New prior NIHB approval** ⚡: adalimumab, Advair, Duotrav, Elidel,

Entocort, Ezetrol, Fosavance, Hydromorph Contin, Isentress, Lantus, Nuvaring, Oxycontin, Plavix, Proscar, Risperidal Consta, Rituxan, rivastigmine, Sybicort, Trosec, Vesicare & Xarelto.

**OTC**: Aleve <sup>naproxen 220mg</sup>, CanesOral <sup>fluconazole 150mg</sup>, Spectro Eczema Care <sup>clobetasone butyrate 0.05%</sup>

### 8<sup>th</sup> Edition Quiz Answers in the RxFiles Charts

1. What is the most effective antifungal agent for treating Tinea pedis? p 51  
a) tolnaftate b) terbinafine c) clotrimazole
2. Which oral iron salt contains the highest % of elemental iron? p 121
3. What is the *new* approved FDA acute treatment dose for colchicine? p 68
4. Based on the FRAX assessment tool, would the following patient be at a low-, moderate-, or high-risk of fracture: p 73  
-58-year old female; 52kg; 156cm; non-smoker; NO fracture, corticoid, or arthritis history; non-drinker; T-score = -2.9
5. Anemia: what hemoglobin level must be sustained before using an erythropoiesis stimulating agent? p 120 a)90g/L b)100g/L c)130g/L
6. Can propylthiouracil be used to treat hyperthyroidism in patients with liver disease? p 35 a) yes b) no c)maybe
7. What is the cost of a course of Zostavax vaccine? p 50
8. What are the heart failure target doses for ramipril & bisoprolol? p 2, 3, 13

### Pictures & Colors Speak a 1000 Words

- 🇨🇦 = We are **Canadian!!!** International readers also welcome!!!
- 🤰 = **Pregnancy** categories (defined on page 135)
- Ⓜ = A concern if given **Pre-Op**  
e.g. St. John's Wort on Herbal-DI chart (page 92-93)
- 🍀 = Likely safe; 🍀 Possibly safe for herbal products
- ⬇️ = ↓ dose required for **Renal** dysfunction
- Ⓢ = **Scored** tablet strengths - easy to split  
e.g. **ATACAND** family from ACEI/ARB chart (page 2)
- 🏠 = Exception Drug Status (EDS) - Sask. Drug Plan
- X = Not covered by the Saskatchewan Drug Plan
- ⊗ = Avoid → soybean & peanut allergy
- M: = Monitoring Recommendations
- CI: = Contraindication **DI** = Drug Interaction
- g = generic if available
- SE = Side Effects **SZ** = Seizure
- ⚡ = **prior approval** required NIHB (Non-Insured Health Benefits) for eligible First Nations & Inuit 1-800-580-0950
- ▼ = **covered** by NIHB (in **OTC charts** & identified **ONLY** for drugs which are **EDS or non formulary in Sask.**)
- ⊗ = **not covered** by NIHB

**Green** Shading usually indicates **HERBAL/Lifestyle** related

**Blue** Shading usually indicates **PEDIATRIC** related

**Purple** script usually indicates **TRADE NAMES**

**Navy** script usually indicates **MAJOR TRIALS**

**Brent reserves the right to violate these rules at all times.**

**RxFiles Charts all sizes tabbed - Pocket, Standard & OVERSIZED. See our website!**

Editors: Brent Jensen, Loren Regier

Link to orderform: <http://www.rxfiles.ca/rxfiles/uploads/documents/IA-CHT-Book-ORDERFORM.pdf>

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/medeff/advisories-avis/index\\_e.html](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/medeff/advisories-avis/index_e.html) & FDA