

Different Psychotropic Medication Categories used in Pediatrics

Antidepressants Approved for Treatment of Major Depression Disorder in Children

Medication	Age of Approval	Dosage Range	Comments
Escitalopram (Lexapro)	12 years	10-20 mg per day	Dose increased every 3 weeks
Fluoxetine (Prozac)	8 years	10-20 mg per day (note. Dose can be increased to 60 mg per day; it is recommended to split higher doses into twice day dosing)	Lower weight children should not be given over 10 mg per day
Bupropion (Wellbutrin)	12 years	50 to 300 mg per day dependent on age and weight	Used in clinical trials to children as young as 8 years of age. Decreases seizure threshold.

Categories of Medications Used to Treat Mental Health Conditions in Childhood

Anxiety

Medication	Age of Approval	Dosage Range	Comments
Duloxetine (Cymbalta)	7 years	30-120 mg per day	FDA Approval for Anxiety, but used for Depression

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

Medication	Age Range	Dosage Range	Comments
Clomipramine	10 years	25 to 200 mg per day dependent on age and weight	Dose can be divided into one or two doses per day
Fluoxetine (Prozac)	7 years	10 to 60 mg per day	Higher doses than typically used with depression
Fluvoxamine (Luvox)	12 years	25 to 300 mg per day	Can be divided into two doses for larger doses

Attention Deficit Disorder & Hyperactivity and Impulsivity

Medications	Age Range	Dose Range	Comments
Methylphenidate (Ritalin, Concerta, Jornay)	6 years	5 to 60 mg per day	Comes in immediate release, extended release with morning and evening dosing. Effects last 4 to 16 hours.
Dexmethylphenidate (Focalin)	6 years	5 to 40 mg per day	Comes in immediate release, extended release with morning dosing. Effects last 4 to 8-12 hours
Dexamphetamine (Adderall)	6 years	5 to 60 mg per day	Comes in immediate release, extended release with morning dosing. Effects last 4 to 8-12 hours
Lisdexamfetamine (Vyvanse)	6 years	1- to 70 mg per day	Extended release; last 10-12 hours
Atomoxetine (Strattera)	6 years	10 to 80 mg per day	SNRI- works similar to antidepressants- takes 2-3 weeks to know effectiveness
Bupropion (Wellbutrin)	12 years	50 to 300 mg	Comes in sustained and extended release. Watch for seizure threshold.

Mood Disorder & Intermittent Explosive Disorder

Medication	Age Range	Dose Range	Comments
Aripiprazole (Abilify)	6-17 years	2-10 mg daily (can dose up to 30 mg per day)	Monitor for metabolic syndrome
Risperidone (Risperdal)	5-17 years	0.25 to 3 mg daily	Approved for treatment of irritability in children with ASD
Lurasidone (Latuda)	10-17 years	20-80 mg	Monitor for metabolic syndrome
Olanzapine/Fluoxetine combination	10-17 years	6/25-12/50	Monitor for metabolic syndrome
Quetiapine (Seroquel)	10-17 years	25- 400 mg	Monitor for metabolic syndrome; tiredness

Lithium	12-17 years	Dose to achieve target serum levels of .8-1.2	Lithium toxicity, kidney damage, weight gain
Lamotrigine (Lamictal)	2-17 years	25 -400 mg carefully titrated	Stevens-Johnson Syndrome