

**Table 4.1** Stimulant Medications Used in the Treatment of ADHD

	Duration of action	Available dosages	Cost*	Comments
<i>Amphetamines</i>				
Dextroamphetamine (generic)		5, 10 mg	\$	Can be cut in half.
Dexedrine Spansules	6–8 hours	5, 10, 15 mg	\$\$	
<i>Amphetamine Salts</i>				
Adderall Immediate Release	4 hours	5, 7.5, 10, 12.5, 15, 20, 30 mg	\$\$\$	Can be cut in half
Adderall XR	8–10 hours	5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 mg	\$\$\$\$	Cannot crush, chew, or half; may sprinkle.**
<i>Methylphenidates</i>				
Methylphenidate (generic)	4 hours	5, 10, 20 mg	\$\$	
Methylin tablets	4 hours	5, 10, 20 mg	\$\$	
Methylin liquid	4 hours	5, 10 mg/tsp	\$\$	
Focalin tablets	4 hours	2.5, 5 mg	\$\$	
Focalin XR	8–10 hours	10 mg 5, 10, 20 mg	\$\$\$ \$\$\$\$	Covers the school day; cannot chew or divide, but may sprinkle.**
Metadate ER tablets	6 hours	10, 20 mg	\$\$	
Ritalin tablets		10, 20 mg	\$\$	

Ritalin SR	6–8 hours	20 mg	\$\$	Cannot half, variable duration action.
Metadate CD capsule	8–10 hours	10, 20, 30, 40 mg	\$\$\$	Cannot chew or divide, but may sprinkle.** In each dose, 30 percent immediate release, 70 percent sustained release.
Ritalin LA	8–10 hours	20, 30, 40 mg	\$\$\$	Cannot chew or divide, but may sprinkle.** In each dose, 50 percent immediate release, 50 percent sustained release.
Concerta capsule	8–12 hours	18, 27, 36, 54 mg	\$\$\$\$	OROS delivery system, a pump system that allows for a more controlled release of medication. In each dose of the tablet form, 22 percent immediate release. Cannot chew, sprinkle, half, or crush. Should not be used if there is a history of narrowing in the gastrointestinal tract.
Daytrana transdermal patch	11 hours	10, 15, 20, 30 mg	\$\$\$\$	Patch is applied each morning and removed 9 hours later. May cause skin irritation or redness.

\*Cost per thirty tablets or capsules: \$: less than \$25; \$\$: \$25–50; \$\$\$: \$50–100; \$\$\$\$: \$100–150

\*\*Sprinkle: If unable to swallow the capsule, OK to open capsule and sprinkle the contents on applesauce; however, chewing the granules will hamper with the delayed absorption of the time-released granules.