



ADHD MEDICATION MANAGEMENT ALGORITHM

PRACTICAL TIPS FOR PEDIATRIC CLINICIANS



FAMILY HISTORY PEARL

- Has a sibling or parent responded well to a specific ADHD medication?
- If so, consider starting with that agent



START WITH METHYLPHENIDATE

Why first?

- Often better tolerated than amphetamine class
- less appetite suppression, irritability, anxiety

Continue /
Optimize
Dose

NO

Significant side effects or
poor response despite
adequate dose?

YES



SWITCH TO AMPHETAMINE CLASS

- Titrate to maximum benefit with least side effects

Continue /
Optimize
Dose

NO

Significant side effects or
poor response?

YES



TRY d- METHYLPHENIDATE

- This isomer may be better tolerated



PARTIAL RESPONSE?

- improved attention but persistent impulsivity or hyperactivity?



Consider combination
Stimulant + alpha-agonist