



Concerta is a prescription medication containing extended-release methylphenidate, used primarily to treat Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in children aged 6 and older and adults up to age 65.

Key prescription and usage requirements for Concerta:

- Concerta treatment should be initiated and supervised by a physician specialized in ADHD treatment, such as a pediatrician, psychiatrist, or neurologist.
- Pre-treatment evaluation includes a comprehensive baseline assessment of cardiovascular status (blood pressure, heart rate) and psychiatric history.
- Regular monitoring during treatment is necessary, including growth assessments in children, cardiovascular checks, and monitoring for emerging or worsening psychiatric symptoms.
- Concerta dosage is personalized based on factors such as age, weight (in children), severity of symptoms, prior ADHD treatment, and risk of misuse or addiction.
- Typical Concerta doses range from 18 mg to 72 mg once daily, with adjustments made slowly to find the minimum effective dose.
- The drug carries a boxed warning about the risks of drug misuse, addiction, and potential for worsening psychiatric disorders.

- It is not approved for children under 6 years old or adults over 65 years, and should be used with caution in patients with certain cardiovascular or psychiatric conditions.

In summary, prescribing Concerta requires careful medical evaluation and ongoing specialist supervision to ensure safe, effective use, tailored to individual needs and risk factors.