



ADHD Webinar

How to Use ADHD Medications Effectively

2012 ADHD Awareness Week Webinars

(Type your questions in the box to the right.)

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Dr. Dodson is a board-certified psychiatrist who has specialized in adults with ADHD for the last 22 years. A former faculty member at Georgetown University and the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Dodson is a Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and a member of ADDitude's Medical Advisory Board.

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How to Use ADHD Medications Effectively

- Standards of care around the world agree that stimulants are the treatment of choice for ADHD at all ages.
- About 88 % of people diagnosed with ADHD will get a beneficial response to either methylphenidate or amphetamine.
- Extended-release stimulants have many advantages over shorter-acting medications, including less of a rebound effect at the end of the dose.
- For maximum benefit, four factors must be fine-tuned for every patient:

The right molecule (methylphenidate vs. amphetamine vs. another).

The right dose (optimal management of symptoms without side effects).

The right delivery system (extended release vs. shorter acting).

The right time between doses.

How to Use ADHD Medications Effectively

- Other medications—such as alpha agonists like guanfacine—are often prescribed with stimulants to calm hyperarousal and flashes of temper.
- Appetite suppression caused by stimulants can frequently be reversed by lowering the dosage.
- Citric acid and ascorbic acid (vitamin C) prevents oral formulations of amphetamine and methylphenidate from being absorbed (except for Vyvanse).
- Extended-release stimulants don't last the whole day. Just about everyone over age 14 needs additional medication in the evening in order to study, drive safely, and maintain good behavioral control.

Questions?

Please enter your questions for Dr. Dodson in the box to your right.



Please note: Attendance and all questions are confidential.

None of the attendees of today's webinar can see the names of other attendees
nor can they see the questions being submitted.

Only the moderator of the webinar will see your questions.

ADDitude does not provide medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. The material in this webinar is provided for educational purposes only.

Thank You!

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ADDConnect

ADDitude's online community for attention deficit support and solutions where you can join our ongoing ADHD discussion groups.

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