



Appendix A: Medications Used in Palliative Care for Delirium and Terminal Agitation

Tailor dose to each patient; **those who are elderly, cachectic, debilitated or with renal or hepatic dysfunction may require reduced dosages**; consult most current product monograph for this information: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/prodpharma/databasdon/index-eng.php>

ANTIPSYCHOTICS ^A						
Generic Name	Trade Name	Available Dosage Forms	Standard Adult Dose	Drug Plan Coverage ^B		Approx. cost per 30 days ^C
				Palliative Care	Fair PharmaCare	
quetiapine ^D	Seroquel®, G	Tabs: 25, 100, 200, 300 mg	12.5 to 50 mg PO daily to twice daily	No	Yes, LCA	\$1–12 (G) \$8–67
loxapine ^D	G	Tabs: 2.5, 5, 10, 25, 50 mg	2.5 to 10 mg PO/SC daily to twice daily	Yes, LCA	Yes, LCA	\$6–19 (G)
		Inj: 50 mg per mL		Yes	Yes	\$543–1086 (G)
risperidone ^D	Risperdal®, G	Tabs: 0.25, 0.5, 1, 2, 3, 4 mg	0.5 to 2 mg PO daily to twice daily	Yes	Yes	\$7–37 (G) \$11–62
	Risperdal M-tab®, G	ODT: 0.5, 1, 2, 3, 4 mg		Yes	Yes	\$18–66 (G) \$27–73
olanzapine ^D	Zyprexa®, G	Tabs: 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10, 15, 20 mg	2.5 to 10 mg PO daily to twice daily	No	Special Authority, LCA	\$10–83 (G) \$59–470
	Zyprexa Zydis®, G	ODT: 5, 10, 15, 20 mg		No	Special Authority, LCA	\$10–83 (G) \$117–467
Haloperidol	G	Tabs: 0.5, 1, 2, 5, 10 mg	Mild restlessness: 0.5 to 1.5 mg PO tid	Yes, LCA	Yes, LCA	\$13–32 (G)
			Delirium and agitation: 0.5 to 5 mg PO q8h to q4h			\$13–92 (G)
		Inj: 5 mg per mL	Mild restlessness: 0.25 to 0.75 mg SC ^E tid	Yes, LCA	Yes, LCA	\$469 (G)
			Delirium and agitation: 0.5 to 5 mg SC ^E q8h to q4h			\$469–938 (G)
methotrimeprazine ^D	G	Tabs: 2, 5, 25, 50 mg	Delirium: 10 to 50 mg SC ^E q30min until relief then 10 to 50 mg PO/SC ^E q8h to q4h	Yes, LCA	Yes, LCA	\$20–76 (G)
	Nozinan®	Inj: 25 mg per mL		Yes	Yes	\$337–1347
OTHER						
phenobarbital ^F	G	Inj: 30 mg per mL, 120 mg per mL	Epilepsy/terminal agitation: 60 mg SC ^E bid up to 120 mg tid	Yes	Yes	\$14–15 per 1 ml ampule (G)

Abbreviations: G generics; Inj Injection; LCA subject to Low Cost Alternative Program; ODT oral disintegrating tablets; PO by mouth; SC subcutaneous; tabs tablets

^A Refer to guideline and/or algorithm for recommended order of use.

^B PharmaCare coverage as of October 2016 (subject to revision). Obtain current coverage, eligibility, and coverage information from the online BC PharmaCare Formulary Search page at pharmacareformularysearch.gov.bc.ca

^C Cost as of October 2016 and does not include retail markups or pharmacy fees. Generic and brand name cost separated as indicated by (G).

^D This indication (i.e., delirium) used in practice, but not approved for marketing by Health Canada

^E This route of administration used in practice, but not approved for marketing by Health Canada.

^F This indication (i.e., terminal agitation) used in practice, but not approved for marketing by Health Canada