

ORAL MEDICATIONS FOR COPD

Systemic corticosteroids					
Drug Name	Supplied	Covered by ODB	Cost	Suggested Dosing	Adverse Effects
Prednisone					
Various generics	5 mg	YES	\$0.02-0.02 per tab	30–40 mg once daily PO x 5–14 days	GI upset, fluid/electrolyte imbalance, pituitary-adrenal suppression, hypertension, cutaneous effects (dermal thinning, easy bruising, acne), hyperglycemia, glycosuria, peptic ulcer, behavioural disturbances (insomnia, euphoria), posterior subcapsular cataracts, glaucoma, myopathy, decreased bone mineral density, cushingoid, avascular necrosis of bone including hip (rare).
	50 mg		\$0.17-0.20 per tab		
Winpred	1 mg	YES	\$0.11-0.13 per tab		
Deltasone	5 mg	NO	--		
	50 mg		--		

Methylxanthines					
Drug Name	Supplied	Covered by ODB	Cost	Suggested Dosing	Adverse Effects
Theophylline					
Theo ER	400 mg sustained release tab	YES with valid NO SUBSTITUTION	\$0.45-0.52 per tab	Initial: 400–600 mg once daily PO with food, usually with the evening meal. Monitor and adjust based on serum levels	Nausea, vomiting, abdominal cramps, headache, nervousness, tremor, insomnia, tachycardia.
	600 mg sustained release tab	YES	\$0.17-0.20 per tab		
Theolair Alcohol Free Oral Liquid	5.3 mg/ml	YES	\$15.25-17.54 for 500 ml		
Uniphyl	400 mg sustained release tab	YES	--		
	600 mg sustained release tab		--		

Mucolytics					
Drug Name	Supplied	Covered by ODB	Cost	Suggested Dosing	Adverse Events
N-acetylcysteine					
Various generics	200 mg/ml injectable solution	NO	\$342.88-394.31 for 10 x 30 ml	600 mg BID injectable solution administered PO mixed with cola or other beverage to reduce nausea and vomiting	Nausea, vomiting, stomatitis, rhinorrhea.

Phosphodiesterase 4 (PDE4) Inhibitors					
Drug Name	Supplied	Covered by ODB	Cost	Suggested Dosing	Adverse Events
Roflumilast					
Daxas	500 mcg tab	NO	\$2.36-2.71 per tab	500 mcg OD PO	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, decreased appetite, weight decrease, abdominal pain, headache, insomnia, anxiety, depression. Avoid the use of this medication in patients with a history of depression with suicidal ideation.

REFERENCES:

Prescribe Smart: the Modern Drug Formulary. 2019. Accessed from: <https://www.prescribessmart.com/>. Accessed on 25-Mar-2022.

Mclvor RA. "Drug Tables: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease". *Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialites (CPS) Online Version*, Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA). 2021. Accessed from: <https://www-e-therapeutics-ca.libaccess.lib.mcmaster.ca/search#>. Accessed on: 25-Mar-2022.