



Medications with Shortened Expiration Dates

Many healthcare providers are not aware that the expiration dating of many medications change, once the items are removed from their primary packaging or refrigeration and are “in use.” This guide provides practical information on a variety of medications that have shorter expiration dates and is a ready reference for your staff, who are involved in the medication administration process.

This Monthly Resource highlights medications in the following categories:

- Asthma/COPD/Allergy
- Pain
- Insulin
- Ophthalmic
- Psychoactive
- Anti-Infective
- Vaccinations

... and more!

As always, if there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of our knowledgeable pharmacists at Remedi SeniorCare.

Medications with Shortened Expiration Dates

July 2015

Many healthcare providers are not aware that the expiration dating of many products change, once the items are removed from their primary packaging and are "in use."

Once these products are opened, they must be used within a specific timeframe to avoid reduced potency and- potentially, reduced efficacy.

Asthma / COPD / Allergy

Brand Name	Generic Name	Expiration Notes
Advair Diskus; Advair HFA	Fluticasone/Salmeterol	30 days; 12 months or when counter reads 0
Arcapta Neohaler	Indacaterol	Remove capsule from blister immediately prior to use
Asmanex; Asmanex HFA	Mometasone	45 days ; 12 months or when counter reads 0
Breo Ellipta	Fluticasone/Vilanterol	6 weeks
Brovana solution	Aformoterol	Use within 42 days of opening foil pouch
Combivent DuoNeb solution	Albuterol/Ipratropium	Resipmat – 3 months; 7 days once removed from foil pack
Dulera	Mometasone/Formoterol	12 months or when counter reads 0
Flovent; Flovent HFA	Fluticasone	8 weeks; 12 months or when counter reads 0
Foradil Aerolizer; Performist	Formoterol	Open capsules immediately before use; 3 months
Mucomyst	Acetylcysteine	Dilutions expire within 1 hour of preparation. Open vials - 96 hours only
Pulmicort Respules; Pulmicort Flexhaler		Use within 14 days of opening pouch; 12 months or when counter reads 0
Serevent Diskus	Salmeterol	6 weeks
Spiriva Respimat; Spiriva Handihaler	Tiotropium	Respimat - 90 days Handihaler- 12 months
Stiolto Respimat	Tiotropium; Olodaterol	3 months
Striverdi Respimat	Olodaterol	3 months
Symbicort	Budesonide/Formoterol	3 months
Tudorza	Aclidinium	45 days within removal from pouch
Xopenex Solution; Xopenex HFA	Levalbuterol	Use within 14 days of opening pouch; 12 months
ProAir	Albuterol	12 months or when counter reads 0
Proventil	Albuterol	
Ventolin HFA	Albuterol	

Pain Medications

Brand Name	Generic Name	Expiration Notes
DepoDur	Morphine Sulfate ER injection	May be stored unrefrigerated for 30 days in sealed unopened vials
Lidoderm	Lidocaine patch	Out of overwrap stability is 30 days

Medications with Shortened Expiration Dates

Insulin Products

Product Name	Expiration Notes
Apidra	Refrigerate prior to use. Vials, Pens, KwikPen, Cartridge, Solostar, and Penfills may be kept at room temperature for up to 28 days
HumaLOG, HumaLOG Pen	
Humalog Mix Pen 75/25, 50/50; Humulin 70/30 pen	Good for 10 days after opening or removing from refrigerator
Humulin R, Humulin N, Humulin 70/30 vial	Good for 31 days after opening or removing from refrigerator
Lantus	Good for 28 days after opening or removing from refrigerator
NovoLOG, NovoLOG Flexpen	Good for 28 days after opening or removing from refrigerator
Byetta, Victoza, Symlin	Prior to use refrigerate. May be kept at room temperature for up to 30 days
Novolin, Novolin R, Novolin 70/30	Prior to use refrigerate. May be kept at room temperature for up to 42 days
Levemir	

Ophthalmic Products

Brand Name	Generic Name	Expiration Notes
Azarga	Brinzolamide/Timolol	Discard 60 days after opening
Azasisite	Azithromycin	Refrigerate. Discard any unused solution after 14 days
Chloroptic	Chloramphenicol	Refrigerate until dispensed. Discard solution within 21 days from date dispensed
Cosopt	Dorzolamide/Timolol	Cosopt PF: Unused individual use containers can be stored in open foil pouch up to 15 days
Phospholine Iodide	Echothiophate	Refrigerate. Reconstituted product can be stored at room temperature for up to 4 weeks
Travatan Z	Travoprost	Use until the last day of the month of the expiration date printed on label
Xalacom	Latanoprost/Timolol	After opening, may store at room temperature for up to 10 weeks
Xalatan	Latanoprost	Refrigerate until opened ,may be used for 42 days after opening

Antipsychotics / Antianxiety

Brand Name	Generic Name	Expiration Notes
Abilify	Aripiprazole Solution	Good for 6 months after opening at room temperature
Ativan Concentrate	Lorazepam Concentrate	90 days once opened; **Refrigerate**
Xanax Concentrate	Alprazolam Concentrate	90 days once opened

Anti-Infective Agents

Brand Name	Generic Name	Expiration Notes
Norvir	Ritonavir	Capsule: Use within 30 days at room temperature
Tamiflu	Oseltamivir Suspension	Good for 35 days refrigerated / 5 days at room temperature

Medications with Shortened Expiration Dates

Anti-Infective Agents (Cont.)

Tobi Podhaler; Tobi Ampules	Tobramycin Inhalation	Podhaler- 7 days; Ampules good for 28 days at room temperature (if refrigerated, good until expiration date on label)
Zerit	Stavudine Solution	Reconstituted solution should be refrigerated. Stable for 30 days

Vaccines / Skin Tests

Brand Name	Generic Name	Expiration Notes
Aplisol, Tubersol	Tuberculin PPD	Do not use more than 30 days. Protect from light.
Flulaval	Influenza virus vaccine	Do not use more than 28 days. Protect from light.
Zostavax	Zoster vaccine live	Discard if not used within 30 minutes of reconstitution **Store in Freezer **

Colony Stimulating Factor / Growth Factor

Brand Name	Generic Name	Expiration Notes
Aranesp	Darbepoetin injection	Single use vial only **Refrigerate**
Procrit/ Epogen	Epoetin alfa injection	Multidose- Discard 21 days after initial entry **Refrigerate**
Neupogen	Filgrastim injection	Single use vial only **Refrigerate**

Miscellaneous Medications

Brand Name	Generic Name	Expiration Notes
Daytrana	Methylphenidate patch	Once tray is opened use within 2 months
Forteo	Teriparatide injection	**Refrigerate** at all times- each pen can be used up to 28 days after the 1st injection
Lasix	Furosemide solution	Dispense in light-resistant containers. Discard opened bottle after 60 days
Miacalcin Spray	Calcitonin nasal solution	May store at room temperature in an upright position up to 35 days after opening
Nitroquick	Nitroglycerin	Unused tablets should be discarded 12 months after the original bottle is opened
Pradaxa	Dabigatran etexlate	Store in original container use within 4 months of opening