



Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (CACAP)

Professor Raj Rasasingham, President

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WHO Expert Committee on Selection and Use of Essential Medicines

Email: emlsecretariat@who.int

Re: Application reference “A.19 Methylphenidate – attention deficit hyperactivity disorder”

17 April 2025

Dear Respected Committee Members and Secretariat WHO,.

On behalf of the Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (CACAP), I am writing to express our strong support for the inclusion of **methylphenidate** in the **WHO Model List of Essential Medicines**, as outlined in the application “A.19 Methylphenidate – attention deficit hyperactivity disorder”.

As the national organization representing child and adolescent psychiatrists across Canada, CACAP recognizes the critical role of methylphenidate in the treatment of **Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)**. Its clinical efficacy, long-standing safety profile, and transformative impact on the daily functioning and development of children and adolescents with ADHD is well-supported by extensive international evidence and Canadian clinical practice.

In alignment with 15 other professional and lived-experience organizations worldwide, CACAP endorsed the joint correspondence titled “*WHO Model Lists of Essential Medicines: methylphenidate for ADHD in children and adolescents*”, published in *The Lancet* in October 2023. We fully support the growing consensus that equitable global access to evidence-based treatments for ADHD, including methylphenidate, must be a priority—especially for children and adolescents in low- and middle-income countries.



We urge the Expert Committee to include methylphenidate in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines to reflect current scientific consensus and to support improved mental health outcomes for youth globally.

Please feel free to contact us should you require further information.

Yours sincerely,

R. Rajeevan

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