

PRESCRIPTION TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR VASOMOTOR SYMPTOMS AVAILABLE IN CANADA*

Category Generic Name (Brand Name)	Dosages and frequency for vasomotor symptom management	Cost of Drug/Month Low - High Dose†	
		Generic	Brand Name
Nonhormonal			
Citalopram (<i>Celexa</i>)	20 mg OD	\$4.00	\$48.27
Escitalopram (<i>Cipralex</i>)	10, 20 mg OD	\$9.33 - \$9.93	\$61.26 - \$65.39
Paroxetine (<i>Paxil</i>)	10, 20 mg OD	\$31.29 - \$9.75	\$59.39 - \$63.39
Desvenlafaxine (<i>Pristiq</i>)	50, 100 mg OD	\$70.23 - \$70.23	\$73.74 - \$73.74
Venlafaxine (<i>Effexor</i>)	37.5, 75, 150 mg OD	\$2.74 - \$5.78	\$31.27 - \$66.03
Gabapentin (<i>Neurontin</i>)	300 - 900 mg OD	\$3.04 - \$9.12	\$36.14 - \$108.42
Clonidine (<i>Dixarit</i>)	0.025, 0.05, 0.1 mg BID	\$17.09 - \$8.15	Discontinued
Oxybutynin (<i>Ditropan</i>)	2.5, 5 mg BID	\$10.94 - \$5.92	Discontinued
Estrogen Therapy‡			
Conjugated Estrogens (CE) (<i>Premarin</i>)	0.3, 0.625, 1.25 mg OD	Not Available	\$11.12 - \$12.18
17β estradiol (<i>Estrace</i>)¶	0.5, 1, 2 mg OD	\$3.60 - \$12.25	\$6.35 - \$21.63
17β estradiol (<i>Estradot</i>)¶	25, 37.5, 50, 75, 100 mcg BIW	Not Available	\$27.95 - \$34.00
17β estradiol (<i>Estrogel</i>)¶	0.75 mg/1.25 g pump of gel OD	Not Available	\$43.56/canister (60 pumps/canister)
17β estradiol (<i>Divigel</i>)¶	0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1 mg OD	Not Available	\$ 26.58 - \$26.58
Progesterone Therapy§			
Micronized progesterone (<i>Prometrium</i>)	100 - 200 mg OD	\$43.07 - \$86.15	\$50.25 - \$100.50
Medroxyprogesterone acetate (<i>Provera</i>)	2.5, 5 mg OD	\$1.25 - \$2.47	\$7.45 - \$14.63
Combination Menopause Hormone Therapy			
17β estradiol/norethindrone acetate (<i>Activelle</i>)	1 mg estradiol/ 0.5 mg norethindrone OD	Not Available	\$76.66
17β estradiol/norethindrone acetate (<i>Activelle LD</i>)	0.5 mg estradiol/ 0.1 mg norethindrone OD	Not Available	\$76.66
17β estradiol/drospirenone (<i>Angeliq</i>)	1 mg estradiol/ 1 mg drospirenone OD	Not Available	\$23.00
17β estradiol/norethindrone acetate patch (<i>Estalis</i>)¶	50 ug estradiol/ 140 mcg norethindrone BIW, 50 ug estradiol/ 250 mcg norethindrone BIW	Not Available	\$35.30 - \$35.30
CE/Bazedoxifene (BZA) (<i>Duavive</i>)	0.45 mg CE/20 mg BZA OD	Not Available	\$87.91
Tibolone (<i>Tibella</i>)	2.5 mg OD	Not Available	\$83.79

*List does not include all available formulations.

†Costs provided in Canadian Dollars and will vary depending on geographic location and place of purchase and can be prescribed and covered by some provincial plans. Costs determined by John Chen, PharmD (personal communication, 2021).

‡Requires a progesterone for endometrial protection when prescribed to people with a uterus.

§Progesterone can be given continuously or cyclically (12-14 days/month). Higher doses of progesterone are required when a higher dose of estrogen is prescribed.

¶Transdermal route of administration.