



Roadmap of IBD treatments

With IBD, no one treatment works for every person. The therapy goals are to control symptoms and inflammation, and decrease the impact IBD has on your day-to-day life.

Roadmap of IBD treatments aims to give you a general sense of how pediatric IBD treatments are used, how they work and what therapies may be on the horizon.

Aminosalicylates ("amino-sali-c-l-ates")

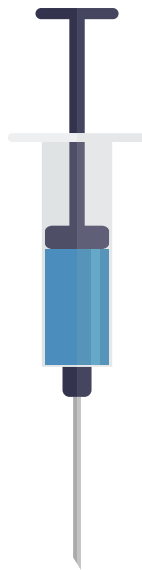
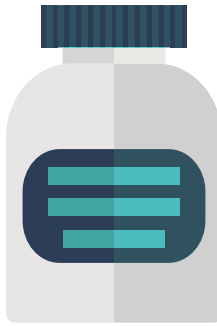
Aminosalicylates are used to treat mild to moderate IBD. Medications in this class reduce inflammation in the colon, control and calm diarrhea, and help maintain remission. Some aminosalicylates contain sulfa and should not be taken by children and teens with a sulfa allergy.

5-ASAs

5-ASAs are used to treat mild to moderate IBD by reducing inflammation. They are available in oral and rectal forms. The different forms target specific areas of the intestines and are released into the body at different times.

Steroids

Steroids are used to treat moderate to severe IBD. Delivered in tablet, liquid and rectal forms, steroids reduce inflammation by suppressing the entire immune system. They are powerful, fast-acting drugs that affect all areas of the intestines. Steroids are not recommended for long-term use because of their side effects and inability to heal the bowel. With steroid treatment, improvements are generally felt within days or weeks. Children and teens may experience some physical and/or emotional changes while taking steroids.



Immunosuppressants

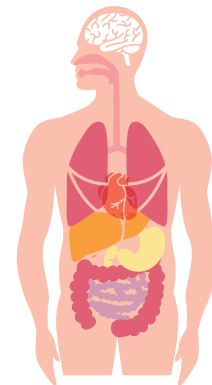
Immunosuppressants are used to maintain remission. As with steroids, drugs in this class reduce inflammation by suppressing the entire immune system, which weakens the body's ability to fight infection. Children and teens taking these drugs must have regular blood tests to monitor white blood cell counts, bone marrow, liver and pancreatic toxicity.

Biologics

Biologics are drugs produced from living cells, created to target specific parts of the immune system and treat IBD. There a growing number of biologics used in IBD, some target and/or block the overproduction of certain proteins in the body that increase inflammation, reduce IBD symptoms (diarrhea) and help heal damaged intestinal tissues. Currently, there are four biologics approved for use in IBD: Remicade (infliximab), Humira (adalimumab), Stelara (ustekinumab) and Entyvio (vedolizumab).

Living with IBD

IBD can be unpredictable at times, and treatments may need to be adjusted, changed or complimented with other treatments. The best approach to living positively with IBD is to be informed: understand your treatment(s), develop a strong partnership with your physician/gastroenterologist and be involved in your own health care.



ROBBIE'S RAINBOW MISSION

Our mission is to help improve the health and quality of life of children and teens living with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis (IBD).

We are committed to helping guide and support IBD families, teens and children by providing access to critical treatments and care, building educational resources and patient advocacy.



Help us help kids living with IBD.
DONATE TODAY
www.RobbiesRainbow.ca



View digital magazine



Check us out on Facebook:
RobbiesRainbowCa



Follow us on Twitter:
@RobbiesRainbow