

eAPPENDIX. ICS De-Escalation Pharmacist Recommendation Note Template

[PATIENT NAME] is a [PATIENT AGE] yo [PATIENT SEX] with COPD and prescribed an inhaled corticosteroid (ICS). Patient is a candidate for ICS de-escalation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1) Recommend DE-ESCALATION of ICS due to lack of benefit and risk of adverse effects for this patient (meets de-escalation criteria per GOLD and VA/DoD guidelines):

-STOP
-START

Note: Recommend tapering due to high dose of ICS. If tapering, the following schedule is recommended:

- Stop @@@
- Start ICS mometasone monotherapy and taper as below
- Mometasone 200 mcg HFA: One inhalation BID x 6 weeks, then one inhalation daily x 6 weeks then stop
 - Start maintenance therapy at the same time as the ICS taper
 - Stiolto Respimat (olodaterol/tiotropium) 2 inhalations daily

If choosing to stop ICS abruptly, monitor closely for signs and symptoms of COPD exacerbation

2) Consider referral to PACT pharmacist for ICS de-escalation

BACKGROUND:

The 2023 GOLD Guidelines recommend de-escalation of ICS in the setting of:

- absence of exacerbations
- lack of response to ICS
- if adverse effects occur (i.e., pneumonia)
- eosinophil count <100 cells/uL

The Academic Detailing COPD Dashboard has identified this patient as a candidate for ICS de-escalation based on the following criteria:

- No COPD exacerbations resulting in ED visit, inpatient admission, or urgent-care clinic visit in the previous 2 years
- No diagnosis of asthma
- No eosinophil count $\geq$ 300 cells/uL in the last year

Per review of CPRS:

- Current COPD management medications include:

[ACTIVE OUTPATIENT MEDS]

- Last PFTs/spirometry testing:

FEV1: @@@

- Eosinophil count: [EOSINO, ABSOLUTE]

- Dose of ICS:

- ☐ High dose
- ☐ Medium dose
- ☐ Low dose

- Adverse events possibly attributable to ICS in the past year: @@@

- ☐ oral candidiasis
- ☐ pneumonia

ASSESSMENT:

Patient meets all of the following criteria for ICS de-escalation per chart review:

- [x] no ED visits, inpatient admissions, or urgent-care clinic visits for COPD in previous 2 years
- [x] no moderate-severe COPD exacerbations in the past year (defined as requiring systemic corticosteroids and/or antibiotics)
- [x] no history of asthma
- [x] last eosinophil count <300 cells/uL
- [x] no treatment with roflumilast, theophylline, or chronic azithromycin
- [x] no prior ICS de-escalation failure

Time spent: 15 minutes