

Why to choose generic drugs over brand name prescription drugs!

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Facts about Generic Drugs

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FACT: FDA requires generic drugs to have the same quality and performance as brand name drugs.

- When a generic drug product is approved, it has met rigorous standards established by the FDA with respect to identity, strength, quality, purity, and potency.
- contain the same active ingredients as the innovator drug (inactive ingredients may vary)
- be identical in strength, dosage form, and route of administration
- have the same use indications
- be bioequivalent
- meet the same batch requirements for identity, strength, purity, and quality
- be manufactured under the same strict standards of FDA's good manufacturing practice regulations required for innovator products

FACT: Research shows that generics work just as well as brand name drugs.

FACT: FDA does not allow a 45 percent difference in the effectiveness of the generic drug product.

FACT: When it comes to price, there is a big difference between generic and brand name drugs. On average, the cost of a generic drug is 80 to 85 percent lower than the brand name product.

- In 2010 alone, the use of FDA-approved generics saved \$158 billion, an average of \$3 billion every week.

FACT: Cheaper does not mean lower quality.

FACT: FDA monitors adverse events reports for generic drugs.

FACT: FDA is actively engaged in making all regulated products – including generic drugs – safer.

To find out if there is a generic equivalent for your brand-name drug, use [Drugs@FDA](#)¹, a catalog of FDA-approved drug products, as well as drug labeling. You can also search for generic equivalents by using the "[Electronic Orange Book](#)"². Search by proprietary "brand" name, then search again by using the active ingredient name. If other manufacturers are listed besides the "brand name" manufacturer when searching by the "active ingredient," they are the generic product manufacturers.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/ResourcesForYou/Consumers/BuyingUsingMedicineSafely/UnderstandingGenericDrugs/default.htm>