

What are Generic Drugs?



How can they help me?

- Generic drugs are a lower cost version of brand-name medications.
- Generic drugs work the same as the brand-name version, but they may have a different color, shape, or name.
- Generic drugs are popular and have been used by doctors for more than 30 years. Generic drugs are available to treat almost every medical condition.
- More is known about the safety of generic drugs because they have usually been around longer than brand-name drugs. Newer, brand-name drugs have more unknown risks and side effects, which are sometimes so serious that the new medication is later removed from the market.
- Generic drugs cost less because many different companies make them. Competition lowers the price. Using generics helps people afford the medications they need.
- Generic drugs are approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the government agency that tests all medications to make sure they are safe and effective. Generics are made in FDA-approved facilities.
- Generic drugs are often under-used because they are not advertised like brand-name drugs. Patients may not be aware that generic drugs are available for their medical conditions.

Ask your doctor if a generic drug is right for you.



GENERICS 
ARE POWERFUL MEDICINE

See www.genericsarepowerful.org for more information