

# Generics: Same quality, lower cost

Generic medicines are modeled after and nearly identical to brand-name medicines. They are marketed under their “chemical name” and usually without any advertising. This means other companies can make and sell the same medicine at a reduced price.

## FDA Approved

- The FDA requires generic medicines to have the same active ingredients, strength and dosage form as their brand-name counterparts
- The FDA monitors any adverse affects and is engaged in ongoing quality control

## Effective

- Generics have the same quality and performance
- Companies that make generics must prove that their medicine is the same as the brand-name medicine

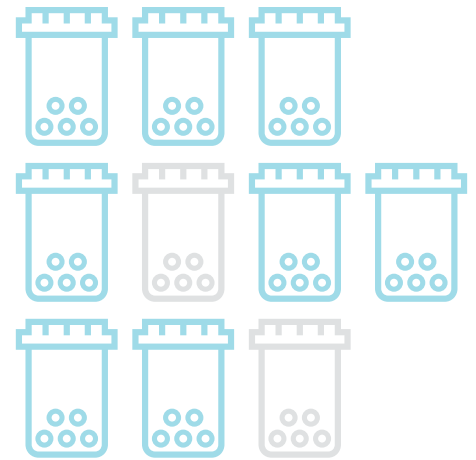
## Affordable

- Generics can help you save up to 80 percent compared to brand names

### Switch to generics

- Ask your doctor if there is a generic option for the current brand-name medicine you are taking
- Ask about a generic option the next time your doctor writes a new prescription
- Ask your pharmacist about your generic options the next time you refill your prescription

To learn more about generics visit [Caremark.com](https://www.caremark.com) or call the toll-free number on your prescription ID card.



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prescriptions  
filled in the U.S.  
are for generic  
medicines.