



## Taking a generic drug can help reduce your out-of-pocket costs

### Generic drugs are as safe as the brand name versions

While you may pay less with generics, you won't lose out on quality. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved generic drugs must be equivalent to the brand-name drug<sup>1</sup> in:

- Dosage
- Safety
- Strength
- Quality
- The way it works
- The way it is taken
- The way it should be used

### Most times, your doctor will let you take a generic version of a drug

Your pharmacy will also usually fill your prescription with a generic if one is available. This means you can save money with every refill.

### You and your doctor may still decide that you want the brand-name version of a drug

If so, your doctor will write "DAW" on your prescription. This stands for "Dispense as written." In this case, your pharmacist will only fill your prescription with the brand-name drug.



### Choosing a generic drug

If a generic is available and you choose to get the brand instead, you'll pay the difference in cost between the brand and the generic and the applicable plan copay. This could result in a significant increase in your out-of-pocket expenses.

If you want to try a generic version, talk to your doctor about changing your prescription. If you can't tolerate the generic or have had an adverse reaction, talk to your doctor about requesting an exception.

<sup>1</sup>FDA. Generic drugs: questions & answers. March 16, 2021. Available at: [FDA.gov/drugs/questions-answers/generic-drugs-questions-answers](https://www.fda.gov/drugs/questions-answers/generic-drugs-questions-answers). Accessed June 8, 2022.

## Check what you'll pay with a few clicks

Log in to your member website at [Aetna.com](https://www.aetna.com) to:

- Compare the costs of generic and brand-name drugs
- Estimate the cost of a drug from your local pharmacy versus the cost of the same drug from our mail-order pharmacy
- See how much you can save



Get details about your coverage and find out more about generics. Log in to your member website at [Aetna.com](https://www.aetna.com) to learn more. Or call the number on your member ID card.

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