



Generic Drug Facts

Generic medicines are the same high quality as their brand-name versions.

Generic drugs go through a rigorous review process to receive FDA approval. The FDA ensures a generic medication provides the same clinical benefit and is as safe and effective as the brand-name medicine that it duplicates.

Generic and brand-name medicines have the same:

- ✓ Active Ingredients
- ✓ Effectiveness
- ✓ Quality
- ✓ Safety
- ✓ Strength
- ✓ Benefits



But they can look different.

Allowable differences in size, shape, and color do not impact how medications work. Generic medicines may look different than the brand-name drugs they duplicate, but they are as safe and effective.

And they can cost a lot less money

Generic medicines tend to cost less than their brand-name counterparts because they do not have to repeat animal and clinical (human) studies that were required of the brand-name medicines to demonstrate safety and effectiveness.

When multiple generic companies market the same product, market competition typically results in prices about 85% less than the brand-name.

Learn more about generic drugs. Visit www.FDA.gov/GenericsDrugs.