

New Generic Medications Released — What you need to know

If you are taking a brand medication, you've probably asked the question, "When will a generic be available?" Below are a few key points you need to know regarding the release of a new generic medication:

Generic price

Most people are excited about generic medication releases because of the cost savings. However, did you know that in the first six months after a new generic is released, the total drug cost of that new generic is usually only slightly lower than the brand name medication? This is because the manufacturer that brings the first generic drug to market gets a "six month exclusivity period" meaning that generic is the only one on the market with no competition. So, prices are generally higher during that timeframe. After six months, additional generic options become available and prices start to drop.

Addition to the formulary

In order for a new generic to be added to your Care N' Care formulary, it has to be listed on the master formulary file published by Medicare. This means that there will usually be a delay in adding that medication to the formulary. This timeframe can vary, but it is usually 1-2 months after release. So, the next time a new generic for a brand drug on the formulary comes out, and the pharmacy says it is not on the formulary, you'll know chances are it is due to this delay. Rest assured we are monitoring for the release of new generics and will add them to the formulary as soon as we can.

Common medications that are anticipated to have a generic released in 2019:

Please keep in mind that these release dates are estimates and can change due to a number of factors which we can't control, but at least you know there is a generic on the horizon!

| Brand Name | Generic Name |
|---------------|------------------------|
| Advair Diskus | Fluticasone/Salmeterol |
| Forteo | Teriparatide |
| Lyrica | Pregabalin |
| Ranexa | Ranolazine |
| Restasis | Cyclosporine |
| Travatan Z | Travoprost |
| Vesicare | Solifenacin |



If you need help, just call us! Your Healthcare Concierge and Pharmacy Team are ready to help you get the medications you need! 1-877-374-7993 (TTY 711) October 1- March 31, 8am to 8pm, CST, seven days a week or April 1- September 30, 8am to 8pm, CST, Monday through Friday.