

# KNOW YOUR EMPLOYEE BENEFITS



Benefit and insurance issues important to you—  
Brought to you by the insurance specialists at AdvanStaff HR

## Generic Medications

*They Keep You and Your Wallet Healthy*

The majority of generics are typically sold at 15 to 50 percent less than brand drugs.

A generic drug is identical to a brand name drug in dosage form, safety, strength, route of administration, quality, performance characteristics, and intended use.

You can be assured that FDA approved generic drugs have met the same rigid standards as the innovator drug.

To gain FDA approval, a generic drug must:

- Contain the same active ingredients as the innovator drug.
- Be identical in strength, dosage form, and route of administration.
- Have the same use indications.
- Be bioequivalent.
- Meet the same batch requirements of identity, strength, purity, and quality.
- Be manufactured under the same strict standards of the FDA's good manufacturer practice regulations required for innovator products.

Recently, some pharmacies have started participating in a \$4 generic drug program. Hundreds of prescription drugs that treat a wide array of conditions are now available for only \$4. Ask your physician or pharmacist for more information on this program. Additionally, if you are a covered participant through Health Plan of Nevada, your co-pay for Generic Medications is \$10.00.

You can also visit the FDA Web site at <http://www.fda.gov/cder/ogd/index.htm> for more information on generics.

The examples listed below are commonly prescribed medications with generic equivalents and their price differences.

Prescription	Brand	Cost	Generic	Cost
Antidepressants	Prozac	\$82 - \$187	Fluoxetine	\$70 - \$92
Arthritis <i>*not identical</i>	Celebrex	\$45 - \$104	*Ibuprofen	\$8 - \$10
Gastrointestinal Preps/Anti-Ulcer	Prilosec	\$120 - \$134	Omeprazole	\$93 - \$114
Cholesterol-reducing	Mevacor	\$45 - \$80	Lovastatin	\$34 - \$40
Heartburn	Zantac	\$60 - \$80	Ranitidine	\$10 - \$20
Blood Pressure	Zestril	\$48 - \$62	Lisinopril	\$19 - \$28

*Pricing is approximate average wholesale prices for 30 pills.*

*This brochure is for informational purposes only and is not intended to replace the advice of insurance professional.*

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