Generic Drugs

Commonly Asked Questions

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Introduction

A manufacturer discovers a new drug and applies for patency to prevent other companies from developing and selling it.

The patent is for up to 20 years and during that period, nobody can produce and sell the branded drug.

However, after the patency expires, other pharma companies are allowed to produce the drug, which is called a generic.

Example: Sildenafil is a generic drug for erectile dysfunction, but its brand name is Viagra.

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How do generic and brand drugs differ?

The difference between generic and brand-name drugs is that they have different inactive ingredients.

Generics are much cheaper than brand name drugs. They are 80% cheaper.

Different manufacturers produce and sell generic drugs, but only one manufacturer develops a brand name drug.

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Why generics are different in colors and flavors?

Law forbids generics to look exactly like its brand-name version, but they must have the same active ingredient.

These subtle differences come from inactive ingredients, such as dyes, fillers, and preservatives.

Due to these fillers and preservatives, generics differ in size, shape and color.

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What is the main difference between generic and branded medicine?

The main **Difference Between Generic and Branded Medicine** is in the circumstances of developing the drugs.

Generic drugs are sold under different names but will contain the same active ingredients as the branded drug.

As far as efficacy is concerned, generics have the same quality active ingredient as branded drugs.

Note: Generic drugs must comply with strict directives and supervision of the FDA.

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Will the inexpensiveness affect the quality of generic drugs?

The FDA requires generic drugs as safe and effective as brand name drugs.

The agency allows generic drugs to be more affordable to people who need them.

Plus, generic drugs are cheaper since the cost of research, development and production is not involved.

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How do I know generic has the same active ingredient?

The FDA requires manufacturers to list all the active as well as inactive ingredients of a drug on its label.

Drugs may have different brand names, but the generic name describes its main ingredient.

The same active ingredient may have different brand names in different countries.

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