

June 2013

Generic Drug Reform Legislative Changes

Effective April 1, 2013, all Provinces and Territories excluding Quebec, reduced the price of the top six generic drugs to 18% of the brand name drugs. This price reduction applies to both public and private payors so it will benefit all Canadians, including those covered under group benefits plans. Prior to this change, provinces were paying between 25% and 40% of the brand name prices for these generics.

The six generic drugs to be priced at 18% of brand are:

Generic Drug	Brand Name Drug	Treatment
Atorvastatin	Lipitor	High cholesterol
Ramipril	Altace	Blood pressure/ Cardiovascular conditions
Venlafaxine	Effexor	Depression/ Mental Health conditions
Amlodipine	Norvasc	High blood pressure/Angina
Omeprazole	Prilosec	Gastrointestinal conditions
Rabeprazole	Pariet	Gastrointestinal conditions

It is expected that this initiative could produce savings of up to \$100 million for provincial and territorial drug plans.