Brand Medications Requiring Use of a Generic First

You can save money by using safe, effective generic medications when possible. According to your prescription benefit plan, you will have to try a generic medication first before certain brand-name medications will be covered. The chart below tells you which kinds of drugs require you to use a generic first. This chart only provides a sample list of generic drug options and may not include all drugs available.

Drug Class Condition Treated*	Step 1: You will have to try one of these generic medications first:	Step 2: Before you can try one of these non-preferred brand drugs:	These preferred select brand drugs do not require use of a generic first:
Bisphosphonates/Combinations Osteoporosis	alendronate ibandronate	Binosto Fosamax Plus D	Preferred brand not available in class
COX-2 Inhibitors/Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory (NSAIDs)/ Combinations Pain and Inflammation	celecoxib diclofenac sodium/misoprostol fenoprofen meloxicam naproxen tabs naproxen sodium (except CR) (additional generic NSAIDs available)	Cambia Vivlodex Zipsor Zorvolex	Preferred brand not available in class
Fibrates High Triglycerides	fenofibrate fenofibric acid	Triglide	Preferred brand not available in class
Proton Pump Inhibitors (PPIs) Stomach Acid	esomeprazole lansoprazole delayed-rel omeprazole delayed-rel pantoprazole delayed-rel	Prilosec Packets	Dexilant
Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs) Depression	citalopram escitalopram tab fluvoxamine fluoxetine paroxetine HCI /paroxetine HCI ext-rel sertraline	Pexeva	Trintellix Viibryd
Sleeping Agents Insomnia/Sleep Problems	eszopiclone zolpidem/zolpidem ext-rel zolpidem sublingual	Edluar Zolpimist	Belsomra Silenor



North Carolina State Health Plan

October 2019

*This list indicates the common uses for which the drug is prescribed. Some medicines are prescribed for more than one condition. Brand-name drugs not listed here may be covered by your plan without the use of a generic first. Information provided here is not a substitute for medical advice or treatment.

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