Heart Disease Patients Save with Generic Drugs

Total: $47 billion

Generics saved patients with heart disease $47 billion in 2017, and savings for the past 10 years total $492 billion. Heart disease—including heart failure, angina, arrhythmia, valvular heart disease and coronary artery disease (CAD)—is the leading cause of death for both men and women in the United States. Generic cardiac drugs help patients live longer, fuller lives.

The Promise of Biosimilars
Just as generics offer savings over brand-name drugs, biosimilars—safe, effective alternative versions of biologic medicines—promise to improve the quality of life for America's patients while at the same time saving the health system billions of dollars.

Many heart disease patients also take generic medications for other conditions:

81% have hypertension, for which they saved **$32.3 billion**

69% have hyperlipidemia, for which they saved **$34.4 billion**

41% have diabetes, for which they saved **$7.7 billion**

Data compiled by IQVIA on behalf of AAM

Generic drug savings in the U.S.

Generics are **90%** of prescriptions dispensed but only **23%** of total drug costs

Medicare	**$82.7** Billion	**$1,952** per enrollee
Medicaid	**$40.6** Billion	**$568** per enrollee

$265 Billion
U.S. Savings in 2017

$1.79 Trillion
10-Year U.S. Savings

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Disease-State and Comorbidity Selection Methodology
AAM contracted with health policy consulting firm Avalere to conduct the mapping of products to specific conditions. Avalere conducted the clinical review by assigning each generic product to a list of medical conditions. Using high-quality and reliable drug information databases (for example, Lexicomp Online and Micromedex 2.0) and expertise from a clinical pharmacist, Avalere mapped the products to medical conditions using their approved therapeutic indications. The generic products were further stratified by assigning comorbidities using published epidemiological data to determine the three most common associated medical conditions.

This approach allowed for an accounting of the patient savings for each medical condition. As a general rule, direct savings for any of the listed medical conditions includes all products with an indication for that medical condition. As such, the savings may be driven by any product with an indication for that specified condition and not necessarily the most common treatment. Savings do not account for the frequency in which providers prescribe each product for an approved or unapproved medical condition.