Patients with Mental Illness Save with Generic Drugs

Total: $48 billion

Generics saved patients with mental illness $48 billion in 2017, and savings for the past 10 years total $307 billion. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, half of all Americans are diagnosed with a mental illness or disorder at some point in their lifetime. Depression and anxiety are the most common mental illnesses treatable with generic prescription drugs, accounting for $24 billion in savings in 2017.

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 patients with mental illness also take generic medications for other conditions:

57% have cardiovascular disease, for which they saved **$1 billion**

56% have diabetes, for which they saved **$4.3 billion**

55% have pulmonary disease, for which they saved **$382 million**

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	**$265** Billion **U.S. Savings in 2017**	**$1.79** Trillion **10-Year U.S. Savings**
Medicaid	**$40.6** Billion	**$568** per enrollee		

Visit **accessiblemeds.org** for more information

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.