

# Enhanced generic substitution

## *Save money on your prescriptions*

The prescription drug coverage offered under your group benefits plan includes generic substitution. Generic substitution means the reimbursement amount of your prescriptions is limited to the cost of the lowest-priced generic alternative.

Many drugs are available in both generic and brand name forms. Generic forms are typically less expensive but are just as effective as brand name forms. Both drugs have the same active chemical ingredient, same dosage strength and same dosage form.

By asking your doctor to prescribe the generic equivalent of a brand name drug, you can do your part to help keep your drug plan affordable for the long term.

If your doctor prescribes a brand name drug, you can:

- ask your pharmacist for the more cost-effective generic version of the drug, or
- request the brand name drug your doctor has prescribed, and pay the difference in cost between the lowest-priced generic drug and the brand name drug.

In some provinces, generic substitution is mandatory. Pharmacists must substitute brand name drugs with a generic drug or different brand that is less expensive. However, if your doctor can provide medical evidence supporting the need for the brand name medication, an exception can be requested by having your doctor complete the *Request for Brand Name Drug Coverage* form found on [www.greatwestlife.com](http://www.greatwestlife.com) – Client Services – Group Benefits Plan Members – Forms. If your request is approved, you will be reimbursed the cost of the brand name drug, according to the terms of your benefits plan.

## *For more information*

For more information about your Great-West benefits plan, contact your plan administrator or visit us online at [www.greatwestlife.com](http://www.greatwestlife.com).



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