

## **Are Generics Right For You?**

**Consumers generally pay 30 to 50 percent less when a generic drug is dispensed instead of the brand-name drug.**

- Generic equivalents must meet strict Food and Drug Administration guidelines and receive FDA approval prior to marketing.**
- Generic drugs must contain the same active ingredient as the brand-name counterpart; and be identical in strength, dosage form, and route of administration.**
- Manufacturers must also prove that the generic product will supply the same amount of the active ingredient in the body, at the same rate, as the brand-name drug.**
- Ask your doctor to write prescriptions for generic drugs when possible.**
- If your doctor prescribes a specific brand-name drug, your pharmacist must fill the prescription as written and cannot substitute. Your pharmacist can talk with your doctor about the prescriptions you are taking, and if any can be changed to lower cost generics or other lower cost medications.**