

仿製藥和品牌藥

Generic and Brand Name Medicines

Unless it is a new medicine, most prescription and over the counter medicines are sold by brand names and generic names.

The active drug ingredients are the same between the brand name and the generic name medicine according to laws in the United States.

The generic may look or taste different than the brand name medicine, but the generic name medicine must work the same way and just as quickly as the brand name medicine.

The generic and brand name medicines also share the same:

- Dose strength and way it is to be given
- Use, or the reason you take the medicine
- Side effects
- Safety

Generics often cost less than brand name medicines. New medicines or those with very limited use may not be available as generics.

Examples of generic and brand name medicines

- Acetaminophen is the generic name for Tylenol, used for pain and fever.
- Ibuprofen is the generic name for Motrin and Advil, used for pain, fever and inflammation.
- Warfarin is the generic name for Coumadin, used to prevent blood clots.

除非是新藥，絕大多數處方藥和非處方藥都是以商標名和通用名出售的。

依據美國法律，品牌藥和仿製藥的**有效藥物成分必須相同**。

仿製藥的外觀或味道可能有別於品牌藥，但仿製藥無論藥效還是產生藥效的速度都必須同品牌藥保持一致。

仿製藥和品牌藥還應在以下方面保持一致：

- 劑量強度和給藥方式
- 使用或服藥原因
- 副作用
- 安全

仿製藥通常都比品牌藥便宜。新藥或使用範圍極為有限的藥物不能被列為仿製藥。

仿製藥和品牌藥實例

- 對乙酰氨基酚(Acetaminophen) 是泰諾(Tylenol)的通用藥名，用於治療疼痛和發燒。
- 布洛芬(Ibuprofen)是摩特靈(Motrin)和艾德維爾(Advil)的通用藥名，用於治療疼痛、發燒和炎癥。
- 華法林(Warfarin)是香豆素(Coumadin)的通用藥名，用於預防血栓。

- Metformin is the generic name for Glucophage, used to help control blood sugar levels.
- Cephalexin is the generic name for Keflex, used to treat certain infections.

Generic name medicines are often packaged and labeled under the drug store or grocery store brand names, such as CVS or Walgreens.

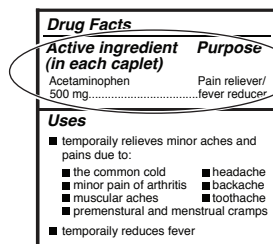
Compare the labels

For over the counter medicines, most stores will have the generic name medicine right beside the brand name medicine on the shelf.

Compare the labels on the medicines to be sure the brand and generic name medicines have the same **active ingredients**.

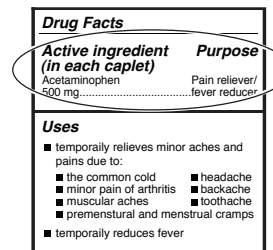
Active ingredients are the medicines in a product that work to treat your problem. For example, the active ingredient, acetaminophen, is listed on the medicine label for both the brand name medicine and the generic medicine labels shown.

Brand name medicine label for acetaminophen



對乙酰氨基酚品牌藥標籤

Generic name medicine label for acetaminophen



對乙酰氨基酚仿製藥標籤

- 二甲雙胍(Metformin)是庫魯化(Glucophage)的通用藥名，用於協助控制血糖水平。
- 先鋒霉素(Cephalexin)是頭孢氨苄(Keflex)的通用藥名，用於治療某些感染

仿製藥的包裝和標籤經常會附有藥店或雜貨店的品牌名稱，比如 CVS 和 Walgreens。

比較標籤

對於非處方藥，多數商店會在貨架上的品牌藥旁邊擺上仿製藥。

比較藥物標籤確保品牌藥和仿製藥含有相同的**活性成分**。活性成分是指產品中用於治療您疾病的藥物成分。比如，在品牌藥以及仿製藥藥物標籤上會分別予以列示有效成分對乙酰氨基酚。

There may be other ingredients in a product, such as dyes or colorings. These are called **inactive ingredients**. They do not change the amount of the active ingredients in a product.

Use medicines safely

- Ask your doctor if there is any reason that you should not use a generic version of any medicine you take.
- Be sure you know the generic name of any brand name medicine you take.
- When refilling prescription medicines: If the medicine looks different or you do not recognize the medicine name on the label, ask the pharmacist to check that it is the right medicine for you.
- **Take the medicine as directed by your doctor or follow the medicine label. Do not take more medicine than what is recommended on the medicine label.** Taking more medicine may put you more at risk for side effects. Medicine dose amounts are set for your health and safety.
- **Follow the directions on the medicine label for how to take the medicine.** These directions help the medicine to work best in your body.
 - If the medicine says to take with food, then eat something when you take your medicine or take the medicine as you eat your meal.
 - If the medicine says to wait one hour before or after eating, then you should do so.
 - There may be other directions for taking medicines.

產品中可能存在其他成分，比如染料或著色劑。這些被稱為**非有效成分**。它們不會改變產品中有效成分的含量。

安全服藥

- 請諮詢您的醫師您是否能使用所服藥物的仿製藥。
- 請確保您知道自己服用的某類品牌藥的通用藥名
- 補充處方藥時：如果藥物看起來不一樣或者您無法識別標籤上的藥名，請藥劑師檢查一下是否適合您。
- **請遵照醫囑服藥或遵照藥品標籤指示服藥。服藥劑量不得超出藥品標籤上的推薦量。**服藥超標可能會增加副作用風險。藥物劑量是為了您的健康和 safety 而專門設定的。
- **謹遵藥品標籤上的說明服用此藥。**此類說明有助於藥品在您體內發揮最大功效。
 - 如果藥物說明要求同食物一起服用，那就在服藥時吃點東西，或者在進餐時服藥。
 - 如果藥物說明要求您在餐前或餐後一小時服藥，那麼您就應該遵照執行。
 - 可能還存在其他的服藥說明。

- **Read the side effects of a medicine before taking it.** You may want to ask your doctor about when to stop taking medicine or when to seek medical treatment if the side effects are serious. Side effects are listed on a medicine label.
- **Ask the pharmacist for help** if you have any questions or you want to know if you have the right medicine.
- **服藥前應詳細了解藥物副作用。**如果副作用過於嚴重，您可以諮詢您的醫師應何時停藥或者何時接受醫治。藥品標籤詳細列明了各類副作用。
- 如果您有任何問題或者想知道自己是否服用了合適藥物，**請向藥劑師尋求幫助。**

Talk to your doctor or nurse if you have any questions or concerns.

若您有任何疑問或擔憂，請諮詢您的醫生或護士。