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Top-Selling Drugs That Are About to Lose Their Patent

This is the beginning of a great time for physician dispensing.

From <http://www.dailyfinance.com>; By: Melly Alazraki

The imminent arrival of the dreaded "patent cliff" has been haunting the pharmaceutical industry for years, and it's finally here. With patents on many blockbuster drugs about to expire, an estimated \$250 billion in sales are at risk between now and 2015, according to data from EvaluatePharma.

Once drugs lose patent protection, lower-price generics quickly siphon off as much as 90% of their sales. For consumers, the savings from generics can be substantial.

In 2010, the pharmaceutical industry had sales of \$860 billion worldwide, up 3% from 2009. Just 133 blockbuster drugs accounted for \$295 billion of those sales -- about 34% of the market -- according to IBISWorld. Of those blockbusters, 13 are set to lose patent protection through 2013.

According to IBISWorld, the top ten best-sellers set to lose patent protection are:

Exp 2011	Condition	Company	Exp 2012	Condition	Company
1. Lipitor	cholesterol	Pfizer	5. Plavix	anti-platelet	Bristol-Myers Squibb /Sanofi-Aventis
2. Zyprexa	antipsychotic	Eli Lilly	6. Seroquel	antipsychotic	AstraZeneca
3. Levaquin	antibiotics	Johnson & Johnson	7. Singulair	asthma	Merck
4. Concerta	ADHD/ADD	Johnson & Johnson	8. Actos	type 2 diabetes	Takeda
5. Protonix	antacid	Pfizer	9. Enbrel	arthritis	Amgen

Manufacturer Price Decreases:

The following medication has decreased in price:

Item #	Description	Strength/Form
# 6174	Tamsulosin	0.4mg Capsules

Major Manufacturer Price Increase

The following medication has increased in price:

Item #	Description	Strength/Form
# 1709	Carisoprodol	350mg tab

Possible Alternatives for Part# 1709 Carisoprodol 350mg tablets:

# 1970	Chlorzoxazone 500mg Tablets	# 0852	Methocarbamol 500mg Tablets
# 5782	Cyclobenzaprine 5mg Tablets	# 0843	Methocarbamol 750mg Tablets
# 2573	Cyclobenzaprine 10mg Tablets	# 0838	Orphenadrine 100mg ER Tablets
# 6186	Metaxalone 800mg Tablets		

New Products Offered (February 2011):

Item #	Description	Strength/Form	Size
5774-3	clindamycin	300mg cap	40 ea
6212-0	aluminum & magnesium hydroxide/simethicone	200mg/200mg/20mg/5ml susp	355 ml