



- ✓ Same medicine
- ✓ Same high quality
- ✓ Same strength
- ✓ Same effect
- ✓ Same safety
- ✓ Saves money which will then be used to treat more patients

Please ask your pharmacist if you have any questions about generic medicines.

## NHS West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group

West Suffolk House  
Western Way  
Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk IP33 3YU

Telephone: 01284 758 010  
Email: [getinvolved@westsuffolkccg.nhs.uk](mailto:getinvolved@westsuffolkccg.nhs.uk)  
[www.westsuffolkccg.nhs.uk](http://www.westsuffolkccg.nhs.uk)

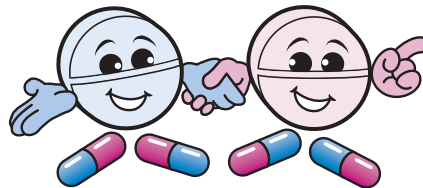
 @NHSWSCCG  /nhsWSCCG



integrated working



*West Suffolk  
Clinical Commissioning Group*



**Generic Medicines: Prescribing Policy**

In West Suffolk, generic medicines are prescribed instead of branded medicines whenever possible.

This is our clinical commissioning group's policy, which means we can use the money saved on other NHS services

### What are generic medicines?

Generic medicines are simply another version of branded medicines. They are the same medicines with the same medicinal ingredient, same quality and same effect. Branded medicines cost more. The money saved by using generics can be spent on other health services to benefit you, your family and others.

### Will I notice any difference?

There may be some difference in colour, shape or size between a generic and a branded medicine. However, this is only the outward appearance and does not affect the medicine or the way it works.

### Why the price difference?

It costs a lot of money to develop new medicines. This means that manufacturers of new branded medicines are allowed several years to recover their costs. After that, any licensed manufacturer can make the same product, and that drives down the cost.

