



Generic Drugs

Do Generic Drugs Have a Future?

The number of **generic prescriptions** is thought not to exceed 5% in Volume. This is lower than the anticipated forecasts and, above all, much lower than that of the Netherlands (48%) and Great Britain (40%). Yet **generic drug prescriptions** should enable a saving of 4 billion euros to be made if all **proprietary drugs** were replaced in this fashion.

To receive the designation 'generic', the drug must have the same active principle as the original drug, the same dosage and the same pharmaceutical form. In short, it must be bio-equivalent.

The advocates of proprietary drugs, mainly industrialists, fear that the prescription of generics instead of proprietary drugs will curb research due to less profitability. Yet this fear seems unjustified if we refer to countries with **strong generic prescription** where research has **remained identical**. The pharmacists, for their part, **deny** the existence of **pressure** coming from industrialists.

The common International Denomination (CID) is the chemical name of the molecule and not the proprietary name. Doliprane, for example, is the trade name for Paracetamol, and internationally known molecule.

A. Vocabulary

This part focuses on essential terminology related to generic and proprietary drugs. Students are introduced to key concepts such as generic prescriptions, proprietary medicines, industrial pressure, and international comparisons in drug prescribing practices. The aim is to help you understand and accurately use professional vocabulary commonly encountered in pharmaceutical, academic, and clinical contexts.

1. Generic prescriptions : Prescription des Génériques
2. Generic drug prescription : Prescription de médicaments Générique
3. Proprietary drugs: Des médicaments Princeps
4. Strong Generic prescription : Prescription de génériques forts
5. Remained identical : est restée identique
6. Deny : refuser, nier, réfuter
7. Pressure : Tension

B. Forms of Drug

This section presents the main pharmaceutical dosage forms used in medical treatment. You will learn to identify and name different drug forms in English, including oral, topical, injectable, and liquid preparations. Emphasis is placed on correct terminology to support clear communication between pharmacists, healthcare professionals, and patients.

| Forme | Form |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Une gélule | A capsule |
| Injection de dépôt | Depot injection |
| Comprimé | Tablet |
| Pommade | Ointment/ liniment |
| Pilule | Pill |
| Pastille | Lozenge |
| Collyre | Eye drops |
| Granulés | Pellets |
| Goutes auriculaires | Ear drops |
| Un sirop contre la toux | A cough syrup |

C. Abbreviations

This part introduces common medical and pharmaceutical abbreviations frequently used in prescriptions and clinical documentation. Students become familiar with standard abbreviations related to drug classification, safety, and patient history, enabling them to interpret prescriptions and medical records accurately and efficiently.

- **OTC : Over -The -Counter**
- **NSAIDS : Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug**
- **ADR : Adverse Drug Reaction**
- **CID : Common International Denomination**
- **NKDA No Known drug allergies**

D. Medical Expression

This section focuses on practical medical expressions used in pharmacy and healthcare settings. You will learn how to give instructions, warnings, and explanations related to drug use, administration routes, and adverse drug reactions. The objective is to improve your ability to communicate professionally and clearly with patients and healthcare providers.

- Il est déconseillé de prendre ce médicament.
- **This drug should not be taken.**
- Ce médicament s'emploie directement sur la peau
- **The drug is applied directly on the skin.**
- Appliquez ce médicament sur la peau
- **Apply this drug on the skin.**
- Réactions indésirables des médicaments.
- **Adverse Drug Reaction**
- Un gonflement au niveau de la bouche
- **Mouth swelling**
- Des médicaments Princeps
- **Proprietary drugs**