

# Better informed about Mepha generics



Die mit dem Regenbogen

**mepha**





Ask for Mepha generics –  
the low-cost alternative

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## Price advantage

“Generics are an average of 25% less expensive today than the corresponding originals.”

Generics are substantially cheaper than the original preparations. Depending on the medication, dosage and pack size, the price differential between the generic and original preparation amounts to approximately 25% on average.

Direct price comparison with generics in other countries is not possible because health systems, registration requirements and market size are not the same. The Swiss market is unique and based on quality, service, patient benefit and sustainability. In addition, in Switzerland there is freedom of choice for medications as compared to certain other countries. These advantages come at a premium.



# Better informed about generics

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Information for Patients

## What are generics?

“Generics are lower-priced successor drugs with proven active substances.”

When the patent protection for a medicinal product has expired, a replica drug (generic) may be developed from it and manufactured. The active substance used for the generic is equivalent to that of the original preparation. Generics exhibit the same effects as the corresponding original medications, but they are less expensive than the original preparations.

## Why generics?

“Generics make reasonably priced therapy possible.”

The use of generics contributes to considerable cost savings in healthcare without sacrificing quality for patients. In contrast, Mepha develops the pharmaceutical form of many generics further in comparison to the original where reasonable, in order to make treatment easier for patients and improve therapeutic success. Mepha generics contain proven active substances that are well-established and documented thanks to years of therapeutic experience.

# cs from Mepha

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## Is switching from an original to a generic possible?

“The switch to a generic is possible in many cases.”

However, for long-term therapies, careful evaluation by the doctor or pharmacist is important. Your doctor or pharmacist will decide when to switch to a generic and if a switch should preferably not be made. In any case, the patient should agree to the switch to ensure treatment success: Only patients who are convinced take their medications regularly and do not stop treatment prematurely.

A switch to a generic is especially worthwhile in the treatment of chronic diseases. But also with acute therapies, generics can help your wallet and reduce health costs.

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## Where are generics available?

“Generics are available from your doctor or in your pharmacy.”

Always ask your doctor or pharmacist for generics. It is worth it! By the way, you can ask for a generic in the pharmacy even if your doctor has prescribed an original preparation for you. If a generic is available, the pharmacist can dispense a cheaper generic for you in most cases.

## Why Mepha generics?

“The innovations have a positive effect on therapeutic success.”

Mepha generics are not always mere copies of existing medications. Some of them even exhibit advantages in comparison to the original because they have been improved. For example, smaller or more easily breakable tablets are easier to swallow. If a tablet tastes better, taking it becomes more pleasurable. Mepha wants to make taking medications as pleasant as possible for patients through such optimizations.

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## What is the quality of generics like?

“Generics are interchangeable with the original with regard to tolerability, efficacy and safety.”

The generic is tested for bioequivalence. This means that it is tested to see if after taking the generic the active substance is available in the same quantity in the blood as it is with the original.

In addition to bioequivalence, the manufacturer must prove that each individual step of production meets Swiss quality standards. This begins with the production and the purchase of the active substance, continues with ongoing quality controls during production and culminates in the analysis of the finished product and stability testing. The quality is tested continuously by random sampling and periodically performed facility inspections.

Some Mepha generics offer improvements over original preparations. Thus, some Mepha tablets are smaller, more easily breakable or provided with a more pleasant taste, which makes it easier to take the medication and can positively affect the success of therapy.

Mepha Pharma AG, [www.mepha.ch](http://www.mepha.ch)

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