

Value Choice Drug Plan



We have identified “best value” drugs and made them available to you with no copayment. These medications are proven safe and effective and are often considered the best therapies to treat common conditions. If you are taking a drug in one of the categories below, consider asking your doctor if one of these value choice drugs would be appropriate for you.

Acid Reflux—Heartburn

Omeprazole
Lansoprazole

Allergies—Eye

Ketotifen Eye Drops
Zaditor OTC Eye Drops

Antianxiety

Alprazolam IR Tabs

Antidepressant

Citalopram Tabs
Fluoxetine Caps (10 mg, 20 mg only)

Antidiabetes

Glimepiride Tabs
Glipizide SR Tabs
Glipizide Tabs
Glipizide-Metformin Tabs
Glyburide Tabs
Glyburide-Metformin Tabs
Metformin SR Tabs
Metformin Tabs

Antihistamine—Allergies

Cetirizine
Loratadine

Antihistamine—Decongestant

Loratadine & Pseudoephedrine Tabs
Cetirizine & Pseudoephedrine Tabs

Anti-infective

Amoxicillin (125 mg/5mL, 250 mg/5mL, and 400 mg/5mL) Suspension
Amoxicillin Caps (250 mg and 500 mg)
Erythromycin Ethylsuccinate 400 mg Tabs
Erythromycin Ethylsuccinate Suspension

Anti-infective, cont.

Erythromycin Stearate Tabs (250 & 500 mg)

Anti-inflammatory—Pain

Ibuprofen (400mg-800mg) Tabs
Meloxicam Tabs
Naproxen Enteric Coated Tabs
Naproxen Sodium Tabs
Naproxen Suspension and Tabs
Salsalate Caps and Tabs

Blood Pressure Control

Atenolol & Chlorthalidone Tabs
Benazepril & HCTZ Tabs
Benazepril Tabs
Bisoprolol & HCTZ Tabs
Captopril & HCTZ Tabs
Captopril Tabs
Chlorthalidone Tabs (25 mg and 50 mg)
Enalapril & HCTZ Tabs
Enalapril Tabs
Furosemide Tabs
HCTZ Tabs (25-50 mg)
Lisinopril & HCTZ Tabs
Lisinopril Tabs
Propranolol & HCTZ Tabs
Ramipril Caps

Blood Pressure Control / Cardiovascular

Amlodipine Tabs
Atenolol Tabs
Bisoprolol Tabs
Carvedilol Tabs
Diltiazem Coated Bead SR Caps
Diltiazem CR Caps

Blood Pressure Control / Cardiovascular, cont.

Diltiazem ER Beads Caps
Diltiazem SR Caps
Diltiazem 12-hour SR Caps
Diltiazem Tabs
Metoprolol SR Tabs
Metoprolol Tabs
Metoprolol/HCTZ
Nadolol Tabs
Nifedipine Caps
Nifedipine CR Tabs
Nifedipine SR Osmotic Tabs
Nifedipine Tab SR Tabs
Propranolol Tabs
Verapamil SR 24-hour Caps
Verapamil SR-PM 24-hour Caps
Verapamil Tabs
Verapamil SR Tabs

Cholesterol Lowering

Lovastatin Tabs
Pravastatin Tabs
Simvastatin Tabs

Insomnia

Temazepam Caps

Skin Irritation and Inflammation

Triamcinolone Acetonide (0.025-0.5%) Cream
Triamcinolone Acetonide (0.025-0.5%) Ointment

Note: This list is only the Value Drugs in the Value Choice Drug Plan. Covered drugs not listed here will fall within Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3.

As a consumer, it's tough to know what your most cost-effective options are when deciding on medications. Consumer Reports Best Buy Drugs, an unbiased and trusted source of information, offers these tips to help consumers work with their doctors to make cost-effective prescription choices:

Older drugs are just as good

The evidence is now convincing that many older drugs available as low-cost generics are as good as, or better than, the pricey new ones.

Drugs within a class or group aren't always different

Drug makers argue that each drug is unique and that each person may respond differently to it. That's true, but it's also true that in some classes of medicines, there are several drugs that achieve pretty much the same results for most people. In other words, you can substitute one for another with the assistance of your doctor or pharmacist.

Pay no attention to drug ads

Granted, the ads can be helpful in telling you when a new medication comes on the market. But don't assume that just because an ad sounds impressive that the drug is actually better than existing medications.

Raise cost concerns with your doctor

Don't hesitate to discuss the cost of medicines with your doctor. Unless you bring it up, your doctor may assume that prescription cost is not a factor for you. And remember, your copayment is only part of the prescription cost. Your health plan absorbs the remainder of the cost, which is often substantial for brand-name medications.

Ask your doctor why the drug has been prescribed

Always find out why your doctor is prescribing a drug. Ask if the drug is approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for your condition or is being prescribed "off-label," meaning for a purpose other than the ones for which the FDA has certified that it is beneficial. If the drug is being prescribed off-label, ask your doctor about the evidence that shows it will work in your case. Health insurance plans often will not pay for the off-label use of prescription drugs.

For more free information from *Consumer Reports Best Buy Drugs*, go online to crbestbuydrugs.org.

