

Prescribing for Value

A pocket guide for prescribers on therapeutic alternatives to high-cost medications

Vanderbilt Health

Affiliated Network

Introduction

This guide is designed to help prescribers quickly identify which drugs in particular classes can reduce costs with no sacrifice in clinical benefit. By using this guide, you can help manage healthcare costs for patients, their families and employers, and VHAN's entire region.

The data in this document represents the average cost of a 30-day retail prescription for commonly prescribed drugs and therapeutic alternatives. Costs are based on Aetna data for the 4th quarter of 2020.

Actual costs for your patients will vary depending on their employers' contracts, but this guide shows reliable trends in cost differences among medication options within particular classes, even if your patients do not have Aetna insurance.

If your practice would like to consult with a network pharmacist on any of these medication classes or other pharmacy issues, email info@vhan.com or contact your Population Health Associate.

For a digital copy of this material, please visit www.vhanhub.com/pharmacy

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Acne (Topical)

\$10.00 OTC benzoyl peroxide wash or gel 10% \$22.00 OTC adapalene (Differin) gel 0.1% \$24.66 Clindamycin MIS Pad 1% \$52.86 Clindamycin Gel 1% \$56.11 Clindamycin Solution 1%	
\$24.66 Clindamycin MIS Pad 1% \$52.86 Clindamycin Gel 1%	
\$52.86 Clindamycin Gel 1%	
\$\$56,11 Clindamycin Solution 1%	
\$66.11 Clindamych Solution 1% \$58.81 Clindamych/benzoyl peroxide gel 1.2% - 5% \$73.29 Tretinol Cream 0.025% \$74.4 Clindamych Joino 1%	
\$73.29 Tretinoin Cream 0.025%	
\$76.44 Clindamycin Lotion 1%	
\$87.25 Sulfacetamide lotion 10%	
\$108.02 Tretinoin Cream 0.05%	
\$113.70 Tretinoin Cream 0.1%	
\$135.51 Adapalene gel 0.3%	
\$187.18 Clindamycin/benzoyl peroxide gel 1-5%	
\$188.33 Adapalene-benzoyl peroxide gel 0.1-2.5 %	
\$275.93 Erythromycin/benzoyl gel 5%-3%	
\$310.61 Dapsone Gel 5%	
\$381.60 Ziana Gel (clindamycin-tretinoin)	
\$503.77 Amzeeg (minocycline 4% foam)	
\$548.74 Riax Aerosol 9.5% (benzoyl peroxide foam)	
\$558.66 Dapsone Gel 7.5%	
\$582.68 Epiduo Forte Gel 0.3-2.5% (adapalene-benzoyl peroxide)	
\$552.05 Epiduo Forte Ger 0.5-2.5% (adapaterie-berizoyi peroxide)	
\$606.24 Operation Cel 12-2.75% (clindomycin/bonzovi porovide cel)	
\$606.24 Onexton Gel 1.2-3.75% (clindamycin/benzoyl peroxide gel)	
\$615.58 Atralin Gel 0.05% (tretinoin)	
\$615.58 Atrain Gel 0.05% (tretinoin) \$615.90 Aczone Gel 7.5% (dapsone)	
\$615.58 Atrain Gel 0.05% (tretinoin) \$615.59 Accone Gel 7.5% (dapsone) \$615.69 Accone Gel 7.5% (dapsone) \$615.70 Accone Gel 7.5% (dapsone) \$615.71 Aczekex Cream 20% (azelaic acid)	
\$615.58 Atrain Gel 0.05% (tretinoin) \$615.58 Atrain Gel 0.05% (tretinoin) \$815.90 Aczone Gel 7.5% (dapsone) \$830.71 Azelex Cream 20% (azelaic acid) \$913.24 Vetin Gel (clindamycin-tretinoin)	
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\$615.58 Atrain Gel 0.05% (tretinoin) \$515.90 Aczone Gel 7.5% (dapsone) \$530.71 Azelex Cream 20% (azelaic acid) \$913.24 Veltin Gel (clindamycin-tretinoin) \$918.96 Retin-A Micro Gel 0.08% (tretinoin)	

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ADHD

\$29.06	Methylphenidate IR
\$40.48	Amphetamine/dextroamphetamine IR (generic Adderall)
\$49.84	Guanfacine ER ADHD (generic Intuniv)
\$86.71	Dextroamphetamine (generic Dexedrine)
\$113.44	Amphetamine /dextroamphetamine ER (generic Adderall XR)
\$126.59	Dexmethylphenidate IR (generic Focalin)
\$153.76	Dexmethylphenidate ER (generic Focalin XR)
\$173.33	Clonidine XR-ADHD (generic Kapvay)
\$175.99	Atomoxetine (generic Strattera)

\$226.48	Methylphenidate ER (generic Metadate, Concerta)
\$223.11	Adderall XR (amphetamine/dextroamphetamine ER)*
\$271.92	Aptensio XR (methylphenidate XR)
\$298.08	Mydayis (amphetamine/dextroamphetamine ER)
\$315.58	Adhansia XR (methylphenidate SR)
\$317.23	Quillichew ER (methylphenidate ER chew tab)
\$324.71	Vyvanse (lisdexamfetamine)
\$349.38	Intuniv (guanfacine ER)
\$351.14	Adzenys ER (amphetamine SR)
\$394.85	Jornay PM (methylphenidate ER)
\$482.82	Zenzedi (dextroamphetamine)
\$409.04	Quivillant (methylphenidate suspension)
\$409.51	Focalin XR (dexmethylphenidate ER)
\$414.27	Cotempla ODT (methylphenidate ER oral disintegrating tablet)
\$420.29	Daytrana DIS (methylphenidate patch)
\$428.40	Adderall IR (amphetamine/dextroamphetamine)
\$455.11	Concerta (methylphenidate ER)
\$466.88	Evekeo (amphetamine)

₩ ₩

usive D	\$833.83	Kapvay (clonidine ER)
58. S ⊖+	\$574.94	Strattera (atomoxetine)
÷	\$391.48	Ritalin LA (methylphenidate ER)
to the set of the set	\$726.66	Methamphetamine (generic Desoxyn)
2	\$1,850.15	Dexedrine CR (dextroamphetamine)

*Some health plans may prefer the brand name for Adderall XR. It is acceptable to write the prescription for the brand name, and the pharmacy can substitute the generic product based on insurance coverage.

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Anticonvulsants

	¢	18.53	Zonisamide (generic Zonegran)
		17.09	Valproic Acid (generic Depakene)
	<u> </u>	19.09	Topiramate IR (generic Topamax)
	5	30.14	Levetiracetam (generic Keppra)
↔	s s	30.46	Lamotrigine (generic Lamictal)
	s s	37.32	Phenytoin ER (generic Dilantin)
	\$	56.53	Carbamazepine (generic Tegretol)
	\$	63.10	Divalproex ER (generic Depakote)
	2 \$	217.44	Tiagabine (generic Gabitril)
↔	Expensive	338.21	Clobazam 20 mg (generic Onfi)
€0	й • \$	347.79	Felbamate (generic Felbatol)
	aoMore \$	389.17	Depakote (divalproex)
	\$	941.18	Keppra (levetiracetam)
	\$	942.07	Vimpat (lacosamide)
	\$	1,093.10	Trokandi XR (topiramate long acting)
	\$	1,396.69	Gabatril (tiagabine)
	2 \$	1,414.64	Lamictal XR (lamotrigine)
\$	Expensive A I 🧐 I 🧐	1,434.76	Aptiom (eslicarbazepine)
₩ \$	й \$	1,903.47	Zonegran capsules 100mg (zonisamide)
	Wost	2,008.86	Felbatol tablet 400 mg (felbamate)
	\$	2,058.14	Onfi (Clobazam 20 mg tablet)
	\$	3,290.37	Banzel (refinamide) tablet 400mg
	\$	11,496.81	Vigabatrin tablet 500mg
	\$	20,849.61	Sabril (vigabatrin) tablet 500mg

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Antifungals (Topical for Onychomycosis)

\$ Least Expensive	\$36.38	Ciclopirox Solution 8%
Expensive	\$1,969.88 \$941.82	Oxistat Cream 1% (oxiconazole) Ertaczo Cream 2% (sertaconazole)
↔ ₩	\$1,065.68	Jublia Solution 10% 8 ml (efinaconazole)
Most 4	\$1,567.10	Kerydin Solution 5% (tavaborole)

Anti-Inflammatory Agents (Topical)

∱ xpensive	\$10 \$16	OTC Salonpas Patch,* Gel (camphor 3.1%, menthol 6%, methyl salicylate 10%) OTC Diclofenac Gel 1% (Voltaren)
Least Ex. 40	\$72.64	Diclofenac Gel 1%
sive	\$111.13	Voltaren Gel 1% (diclofenac)
More Exper	\$130.40	Diclofenac Solution 1.5%
sive	\$554.35	Diclofenac Dis 1.3% (generic Flector Patch)
↔ ₩	\$667.38	Flector Dis Patch 1.3% (diclofenac epolamine)
Most E	\$2690.44	Pennsaid Solution 2% (diclofenac)

*OTC store brand generic products may be less expensive.

Antineoplastic or Premalignant Lesion Agents (Topical)

sive	\$76.28	Efudex cream 5% (fluorouracil)
Ω Ω	\$132.26	Fluorouracil solution 5%
Least E	\$167.71	Fluorouracil Cream 5%
e.	\$272.88	Tolak Cream 4% (fluorouracil)
⊖ Sensive	\$473.59	Efudex Cream 5% (fluorouracil)
₩ S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	\$409.38	Levulan Kera Solution 20% (only 1 dose) (aminolevulinic acid)
More	\$253.14	Diclofenac Gel 3%
	\$1,182.21	Fluoroplex Cream 1% (fluorouracil)
.¥	\$2,127.81	Picato Gel 0.015% (only 3 days Tx) (ingenol)
\$ \$ Expensive	\$2,821.63	Carac Cream 0.5% (fluorouracil)
	\$5,865.95	Valchlor Gel 0.016% (mechlorethamine)
Most 🛧	\$7,930.13	Panretin Gel 0.1% (alitretinoin)
	\$29,630.03	Targretin Gel 1% (bexarotene)

Corticosteroids (Topical)

\$ east Expensive	\$5.00 \$5.54 \$8.60 \$11.16 \$15.96	OTC Hydrocortisone 1% Cream (very low potency) Hydrocortisone 2.5% Cream/Ointment (low potency) Triamcinolone 0.025% Cream/Ointment (medium potency) Triamcinolone 0.1% Cream/Ointment (medium potency) Augmented Betamethasone 0.05% Cream (very high potency)
л	\$16.81 \$84.18 \$122.15	Triamcinolone 0.5% Cream/Ointment (high potency) Clobetasol 0.05% Solution/Cream/Ointment (very high potency) Betamethasone Dipropionate 0.05% Lotion (high potency)
\$\$ More Expensive	\$35.06 \$63.41 \$70.11 \$105.77 \$151.79 \$199.84 \$217.02	Mometasone 0.1% Cream/Solution (medium potency) Fluocincione acetonide 0.025% Cream (medium potency) Betamethasone dipropionate 0.05% Cream (high potency) Desonide 0.05% Cream/Ointment (low potency) Clobetasol 0.05% Foam Clobetasol 0.05% Spray (very high potency) Desonide 0.05% Lotion
\$\$\$ Most Expensive	\$944.50 \$990.80 \$1,011.15 \$1,034.63 \$1,114.76 \$2,248.14	Semivo 0.05% Aerosol (betamethasone dipropionate spray) Verdeso 0.05% Aerosol (desonide foam) Calcipotriene 0.005%-Betamethasone 0.064% ointment Ultravate 0.05% Lotion (halobetasol) Apexicon E Cream 0.05% (diflorasone) Taclonex Suspension (calcipotriene 0.005%-betamethasone 0.064%)

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Epinephrine

\$	<u>\$293.66</u>	Epinephrine Pen
Least Expensive	\$251.36	Symjepi
\$\$	\$645.05	EpiPen Jr 2-pak
More Expensive	\$641.17	EpiPen 2-pack
\$\$\$ Most Expensive	\$4624.01	Auvi-Q

HMG Co-Reductase Inhibitors (Statins)

	\$3.91	Lovastatin (generic Mevacor, Altoprev)
\$ Expensive	\$6.85	Simvastatin (generic Zocor)
₩ S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	\$7.28	Pravastatin (generic Pravachol)
east	\$10.07	Atorvastatin (generic Lipitor)
	\$27.27	Rosuvastatin (generic Crestor)
sive	\$85.63	Fluvastatin (generic Lescol)
More Exper	\$132.30	Pravachol (pravastatin)
Mo		
	\$209.54	Zypitamag (pitavastatin magnesium)
se.	\$221.66	Zocor (simvastatin)
\$\$ Expensive	\$263.72	Crestor (rosuvastatin)
+++ +++	\$305.51	Livalo (pitavastatin)
Most I	\$410.95	Lipitor (atorvastatin)
	\$907.60	Altoprev (lovastatin)

Local Anesthetic (Topical)

\$	\$13.27	OTC AneCream 4%* (lidocaine cream)
Least Expensive	\$9.99	OTC Salonpas 4%* (lidocaine patch)
SS More Expensive	\$127.36 \$162.01	Lidocaine Patch 5% Lidocaine Ointment 5%
\$\$\$	<u>\$321.91</u>	Synera Patch (lidocaine 70 mg-tetracaine 70 mg)
Most Expensive	\$934.72	Lidoderm Patch 5%

*OTC store brand generic products may be less expensive.

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Metformin

\$ Least Expensive	\$4.26 \$5.50	Metformin tablet Metformin ER (generic Glucophage XR)
\$\$ More Expensive	\$42.85	Glucophage XR
\$\$\$ Most Expensive	\$532.11 \$1,928.93 \$1,649.12 \$6,334.46	Metformin ER - Osmo tablet (generic Fortamet) Fortamet (Metformin ER 24-hour tablet) Metformin ER 24-hour tablet (generic Glumetza) Glumetza

Neuropathic Pain

61	\$11.64	Duloxetine (generic Cymbalta)
nsive	\$12.50	Venlafaxine ER (generic Effexor XR)
Least Expe	\$13.25	Venlafaxine (generic Effexor)
	\$19.09	Topiramate (generic Topamax)
	\$26.41	Gabapentin (generic Neurontin) (neuropathic pain)

Isive	\$36.64	Desvenlafaxine succinate ER (generic Pristiq)
Acre Exper	\$158.70	Pregabalin (generic Lyrica)

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Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Agents (NSAIDs)

	\$2.65	Meloxicam
	\$4.37	Naproxen
.8	\$8.93	Ibuprofen
east Expensive	\$11.94	Nabumetone
₩ 1	\$12.11	Diclofenac sodium
lea	\$12.17	Sulindac
	\$13.93	Indomethacin
	\$26.66	Indomethacin ER
<u>8</u>	\$60.86	Celecoxib
₩ S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	\$72.99	Ketorolac
ΨÅ	\$74.69	Oxaprozen
More	\$105.05	Diclofenac with misoprostol (generic Arthrotec)
	\$525.13	Celebrex (celecoxib)
	\$640.31	Zorvolex 35mg (diclofenac)
	\$704.60	Naprelan ER (naproxen)
ş.	\$860.34	Vivlodex (meloxicam)
\$\$\$ Vost Expensive	\$1,387.79	Zipsor (diclofenac)
67 <u>∆</u> 67 ±	\$1,949.77	Sprix Spray (ketorolac 8-day supply)
Ŵ	\$1,973.45	Ketoprofen capsule 25mg
	\$2,229.08	Fenoprofen 200mg
	\$2,333.77	Duexis (ibuprofen-famotadine)
	\$2,418.47	Vimovo (naproxen-esomeprazole)

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Ophthalmic Prostaglandins

\$ Least Expensive	\$6.91	Latanoprost Solution 0.005% (generic Xalatan)
ensive	\$123.69	Bimatoprost Solution 0.03% (generic Lumigan)
More Expe	\$158.71	Travoprost Drops 0.004% (generic Travatan Z)
	\$218.23	Zioptan Drops 0.0015% (tafluprost)
sive	\$216.23	Travatan Z Drops 0.004% (travoprost)
⇔ s	\$241.04	Lumigan Solution 0.01% (bimatoprost)
Most B Most B	\$246.86	Xalatan solution 0.005% (latanoprost)
~ 2	\$247.67	Vyzulta Solution 0.024% (latanoprostene)
		vyzaka oblakow obzero (atanoprotono)

Proton Pump Inhibitors

sive	\$6.87	Omeprazole (generic Prilosec)
Least Expen	\$6.93	Pantoprazole (generic Protonix)
isive	\$50.48	Lansoprazole (generic Prevacid)
↔ e	\$71.26	Rabeprazole (generic Aciphex)
More E	\$92.09	Esomeprazole (generic Nexium)
	\$298.11	Dexilant (dexlansoprazole)
	\$318.42	Nexium (esomeprazole)
\$ \$ xpensive	\$499.39	Prevacid (lansoprazole)
↔ <u>5</u>	\$600.66	Protonix (pantoprazole)
Most E	\$644.54	Aciphex (rabeprazole)
2	\$788.16	Omeprazole/NaBicarb (generic Zegerid)
	\$4,098.74	Zegerid (omeprazole/NaBicarb)

Testosterone

Isive	\$57.01	Testosterone enanthate injection
Least Exper	\$53.71	Testosterone cypionate injection
\$\$ More Expensive	\$175.56	Testosterone Gel 1% (50 mg)
	\$428.88	Fortesta Gel 2% (transdermal gel 10mg/actuation)
۵	\$305.08	Testosterone Gel Pump (30mg/Actuation)
↔ ^{sis}	\$784.55	Natesto Gel (nasal gel 5.5mg/actuation)
₩ S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	\$706.63	Androgel Gel 1% (50mg/actuation)
to the set	\$931.71	Testim Gel 1% transdermal gel (50mg/5g)
2	\$815.84	Androgel Gel 1% transdermal gel (25 Mg/2.5g)
	\$1,202.38	Androgel Gel 1.62% transdermal gel (20.25mg/1.25g)

Tetracyclines

\$ Least Expensive	\$27.98	Minocycline capsule 100mg
	\$35.37	Doxycycline monohydrate 100mg
isive	\$63.79	Minocycline ER 24-hour release tablet (generic Solodyn)
÷ the second se	\$82.03	Doxycycline hyclate capsules
More E	\$92.42	Doxycycline hyclate tablets
	\$258.04	Demeclocycline tablet
da.	\$504.79	Tetracycline capsule
\$\$ Expensive	\$840.35	Ximino (minocycline ER 24-hour release capsule)
θ, μ	\$818.58	Targadox 50 mg tablet (doxycycline hyclate)
Most E	\$1,041.78	Acticlate 75 or 150 mg tablet (doxycycline hyclate)
2	\$1,234.76	Solodyn (minocycline)
	\$1,124.99	Doryx 200 mg tablet (doxycycline hyclate)

Urinary Antispasmodics

\$ Least Expensive	\$19.46 \$33.19 \$58.87 \$74.03 \$119.66 \$72.03	Oxybutynin chloride (generic Oxytrol) Oxybutnin chloride ER (generic Ditropan XL) Solifenacin (generic Vesicare) Totterodine tartrate (generic Detrol) Totterodine tartrate ER (generic Detrol LA) Trospium chloride (generic Sanctura)
\$\$ More Expensive	\$48.35 \$189.05 \$157.10	Flavoxate (generic Urispas) Darifenacin ER (generic Enablex) Trospium chloride ER (generic Sanctura XR)
\$\$\$ Most Expensive	\$367.81 \$441.07 \$558.66 \$1032.37	Vesicare Toviaz Myrbetriq Detrol LA

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