



Protecting You and Your Prescriptions

To make sure you continue to get safe prescription drugs, Medicare wants prescriptions filled only with drugs that are properly listed with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Several drug companies may make and sell versions of a certain drug to pharmacies. Some companies' versions of the drug may be listed with the FDA, but others might not be. Your pharmacy might stock a version of a drug that isn't listed with the FDA.

Starting **January 1, 2010**, if your pharmacy tries to sell you a version of a drug that isn't listed with the FDA, your Medicare drug plan might not pay for it. This means you might go to the pharmacy where you regularly get your Medicare-covered prescriptions filled, and if the pharmacy stocks only a version of the drug that isn't listed (and, therefore, your plan won't cover), the pharmacy may not be able to fill your prescription that day.

What if I go to the pharmacy and can't get my prescription filled?

If you aren't able to get your prescription filled because your pharmacy stocks only a version of your drug that isn't listed with the FDA, here's what you can do:

- Ask the pharmacy to see if it has a version of the drug that's listed with the FDA and is in stock.
- Ask the pharmacy to order a version of the drug that's listed with the FDA. The pharmacy will let you know how long this takes, often no more than a day.
- Go to another pharmacy in your plan's network that stocks a version of the drug that's listed with the FDA. Contact your plan, or visit your plan's Web site for a list of pharmacies in your plan's network. Before you go to another pharmacy, call ahead to make sure that pharmacy stocks a version of your drug that's listed with the FDA.

Where can I get more information?

If you have any questions about this issue, call your Medicare drug plan. You can also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.