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Alaska Department of Administration

# Retirement and Benefits

## Lipitor® Manufacturer Exclusivity Period

### Generic version to cost more than brand

AlaskaCare would like to share important information about an upcoming change in the prescription drug coverage for Lipitor®, a cholesterol lowering medication.

A generic form of Lipitor® called Atorvastatin was introduced around 11/30/2011. Typically, generics should be used whenever available and appropriate to help lower the cost to the plan and the copays for members. However, in this instance, the generic form of Lipitor® will cost more than the brand due to a manufacturer exclusivity period. If you purchase Lipitor, this may affect you in the following ways:

- The generic will not be covered until the pricing is comparable to the pricing for Lipitor®
- You will be charged the generic copay for the brand Lipitor®
  - For retirees, the generic copay is \$4
  - For active employees, the brand and generic copay is 20% of the drug cost and since the brand will be less expensive than the generic, the copay will be less

If you have questions about this change for Lipitor®, please contact the pharmacy benefit manager, EnvisionRxOptions Customer Service Help Desk at (800) 361-4542. The Help Desk is available to assist you with prescription questions 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

Download Lipitor Member Letter [PDF 118K]

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