

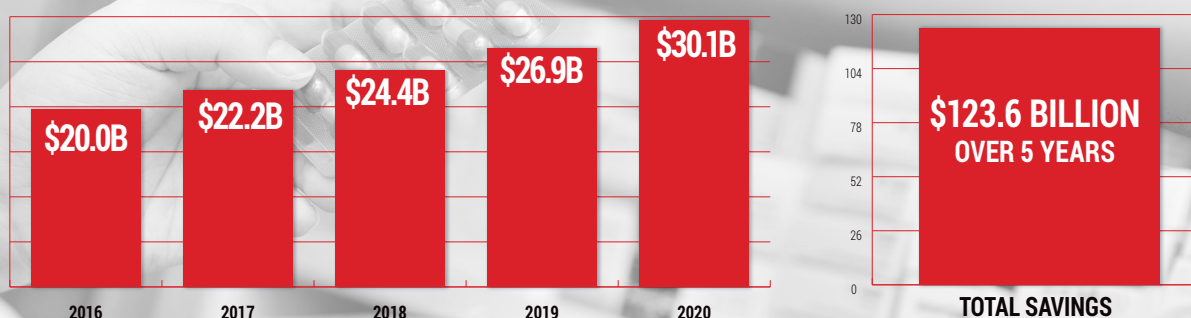
# GENERIC MEDICINES SAVED CANADIANS 123.6 BILLION DOLLARS OVER 5 YEARS

**CGPA**

Making Patient Care Affordable

The availability and use of generic prescription **\$123.6-billion over the past five years**. Generic prescription medicines play a key role in making patient care affordable in Canada. Generic prescriptions are dispensed to fill 73 percent of all prescriptions, yet account for only 19.7 percent of the \$32.7-billion dollars Canadians spent in 2020 on prescription drugs.

For every one percent increase in the use of generic medicines, **Canada would have saved \$703,700,000 in 2020**. Therefore, increasing the use of generic prescription medicines in Canada supports the ongoing sustainability of drug benefit plans and the broader health-care system.



The following methodology was employed by the Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association (CGPA) to calculate the savings from the use of generic prescription medicines from 2016 to 2020:

- CGPA purchased IQVIA Canadian sales data used to review brand-name and generic pharmaceutical product sales from 2016 through 2020;
- For each year, CGPA calculated the average annual price difference (discount) between generic prescription medicines and the brand-name versions;
- CGPA used the average price differential for each year and the annual sales of generic medicines to calculate annual savings from 2016 to 2020.

## POLICIES TO SUPPORT THE INCREASED USE OF COST-SAVING GENERIC PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES

- 01.** Intellectual property rules that are fair and balanced for all stakeholders, including patients, payers and generic pharmaceutical manufacturers.
- 02.** Timely national (Health Canada) review and approval of new generic pharmaceutical products.
- 03.** Timely listing of generic pharmaceutical products on provincial drug plan formularies following Health Canada approval.
- 04.** Changes to the design of both public and private sector drug benefit plans to ensure optimal use of cost-saving generic medicines.
- 05.** Careful, unbiased, clinical evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of new, patented medicines to ensure they provide therapeutic improvement to patients and not just higher costs.