

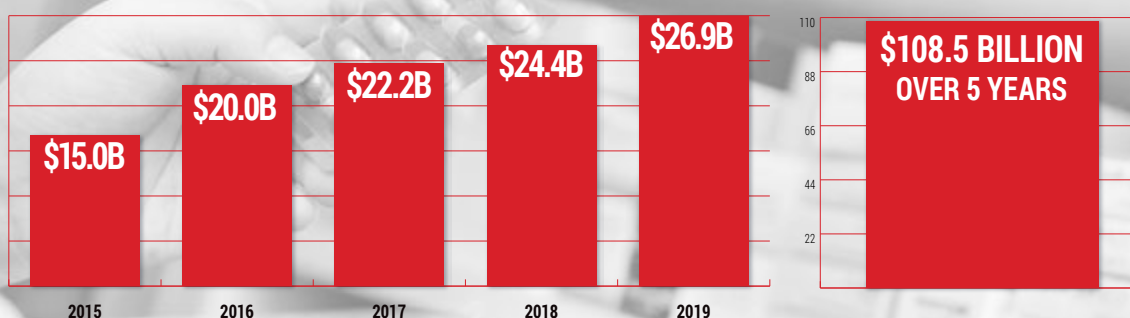
GENERIC MEDICINES SAVED CANADIANS 108.5 BILLION DOLLARS OVER 5 YEARS

CGPA

Making Patient Care Affordable

The availability and use of generic prescription medicines saved Canada's health-care system **more than \$108.5-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 19.1 percent of the \$30.7-billion dollars Canadians spent in 2019 on prescription drugs.

For every one percent increase in the use of generic medicines, **Canada would have saved \$658,100,000 in 2019**. 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 2015 to 2019:

- CGPA purchased IQVIA Canadian sales data used to review brand-name and generic pharmaceutical product sales from 2015 through 2019;
- 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 2015 to 2019.

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.