

**Information about**  
**Medications for Pain that are**  
**Excluded from the Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage**

You indicated that you take a medication for pain. If the medication you take for pain is on the list below, it may not be paid for by the Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage.

Brand Name	Generic Name
Ativan	lorazepam
Centrax	prazepam
Dalmane	flurazepam
Diastat	diazepam
Doral	quazepam
Halcion	triazolam
Klonopin	clonazepam
Librax	chlordiazepoxide and clidinium
Librium	chlordiazepoxide
Limbitrol	chlordiazepoxide and amitriptyline
Paxipam	halazepam
ProSom	estazolam
Restoril	temazepam
Serax	oxazepam
Tranxene	clorazepate
Valium	diazepam
Versed	midazolam
Xanax	alprazolam

Below are some options that may either reduce the cost of or provide coverage for your medication for pain:

- **Generic drugs**—Several brand name medications on the list above are available as generic drugs. A generic drug works like the brand-name drug in dosage, strength, performance and use, and must meet the same quality and safety standards. All generic drugs are reviewed and approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Generic drugs are less expensive than brand medications. If you are taking a brand name drug, check with your physician or pharmacist to find out if a generic drug is available for your medication and is appropriate for your specific situation.
- **Discuss your medications with your doctor**—Your doctor may be able to switch you to another medication that works just as good as the medication you are now taking **and** is not excluded from Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage. Only your doctor can make this switch for you. Do not stop taking your medication or switch to another medication on your own.
- **“Enhanced coverage plans” through Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage**—Some Medicare Prescription Drug Plans may offer “enhanced coverage” that includes

medications for pain that are excluded from the “standard coverage” provided by Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage. If you decide to enroll in Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage, you may consider choosing an enhanced coverage plan that covers these excluded medications. Please note that the premiums for enhanced coverage plans may be much greater than the standard coverage plans.

- **Pharmaceutical company patient assistance programs**—You may be eligible for assistance offered by pharmaceutical companies. These programs provide certain medications at a very low cost based on a person's income and needs. The specific medication you take may or may not be included in a pharmaceutical company patient assistance program.
- **Pharmaceutical company discount cards**— Some pharmaceutical companies have programs or prescription cards that will allow qualified persons to get medications at a discounted price. The specific medication you take may or may not be included as part of a pharmaceutical company discount card program.
- **Other Options**—The following programs may pay for some or all of the medications that are excluded from the Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage. If you currently receive prescription benefits or assistance from any of the following programs, you may want to consider checking into whether the program will cover your excluded medications.
  - **Your State Medicaid Program**
  - **Your State Pharmacy Assistance Program** (if available in your state)
  - **The Department of Veterans Affairs Health Benefits**
  - **TRICARE** for retired military service members and their spouses
  - **CHAMPVA**