

Did You Know...

Recently, the FDA approved two generic albuterol inhalers: Perrigo's generic to ProAir HFA and Cipla's generic to Proventil HFA. While supplies are limited currently, we anticipate more availability throughout the remainder of the year resulting in lower copay and plan costs for these medications.

What this means? Patients with commercial insurance (such as the Duke Basic, Duke Select, and Duke BCBS plans) will be able to pay a generic copay for these products. Other ProAir products: ProAir Respiclick and ProAir Digihaler will continue to be branded and will continue to have deductibles and associated branded copays.

Information for Prescribers: Approved for patients 4 years of age or older to treat reversible obstructive airway disease and prevention of exercise-induced bronchospasm.

When considering costs, writing for ProAir HFA or Proventil HFA will allow your patients to receive the generic product – as supplies allow – at a generic copay.

Short Acting Beta Agonist Inhalers					
	ProAir HFA (generic)	ProAir Respiclick (brand)	ProAir Digihaler (brand)	Ventolin (brand)	Proventil HFA (generic)
Copay (Duke Plans)	\$15	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$15
Average Cost* (per inhaler)	\$42	\$59	\$100+	\$54	\$50

*Average Cost is average total cost (plan + copay) of 1 inhaler per Express Scripts claims data (April 2020)

As a reminder, another cost-effective option for albuterol delivery is albuterol nebulizer solution - \$6.57 per 25 nebulizations (when nebulization is appropriate for the patient).

This communication was approved by the Duke Basic/Duke Select Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Provider Workgroup. For more information, please contact Lee Jackson at lee.jackson@dm.duke.edu