



Pharmacy Pearls

Insulin lispro U-100 Authorized Generic Now Available

AHP Contact: AHPPharmacist@URMC.Rochester.edu

An authorized generic of Humalog® U-100, insulin lispro U-100, is now available at pharmacies throughout the U.S. at nearly half the price of brand name Humalog® U-100. Below is what you need to know about generic insulin lispro U-100.

How should I write a prescription for generic insulin lispro U-100?

- Write Rx for “insulin lispro” to facilitate dispensing based on insurance preference
- Add the following message to the Rx: *“Please dispense as generic insulin lispro (Imclone mfg.) if covered”*

Can insulin lispro U-100 be used in an insulin pump?

- Yes, insulin lispro U-100 should be changed in the pump reservoir at least every 7 days

How much does insulin lispro cost?

Product	Cost/vial or pen*
Humalog® U-100 10-mL Vial	\$325
Humalog® U-100 3-mL Pen	\$141
Insulin lispro U-100 10-mL Vial	\$165
Insulin lispro U-100 3-mL Pen	\$64

*Cost information from GoodRx.com as of October 2019

- ✓ Coverage of insulin lispro U-100 varies depending on both insurance plan and line of business
- ✓ **Patient cost will be lower if:**
 - They have a high-deductible plan
 - They are in the Medicare coverage gap
 - They pay cash for prescriptions

What is the difference between a generic and an authorized generic?

Generic

- Copy of a brand name drug that is developed and made by a different company from the branded product
- Same active ingredient, conditions of use, dosage form, strength and route of administration as the brand drug
- *May* have different inactive ingredients
- Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA) required by FDA to prove that the generic is bioequivalent to the brand

Authorized Generic

- *An approved* brand name drug that is *marketed without the brand name on its label* and sold at a lower cost
- Marketed by the brand name drug company or another company with permission from the brand company
- Exactly the same in all aspects to the brand name drug
- Additional FDA drug approval is not required because it is marketed under the brand’s New Drug Application (NDA)
- Considered therapeutically equivalent to the brand name because *it is exactly the same drug*

Take Home Message

Your AHP pharmacy team can help facilitate switches by providing you or your practice with a list of patients that can be switched to insulin lispro based on insurance coverage. To obtain a list, email AHPPharmacist@urmc.rochester.edu. Consider sending prescriptions for insulin lispro with the following message, *“please dispense as generic insulin lispro (Imclone mfg.) if covered”* to encourage the pharmacy to dispense the authorized generic when it is covered by the patient’s pharmacy benefit. Utilizing this authorized generic will result in significant cost savings for the AHP network and many of our patients.