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# **Generic Valtrex Cuts Cost Of Herpes Treatment**

Herpes treatment with Valtrex just got a lot less expensive!

A generic form of Valtrex is now available to treat herpes outbreaks when they're underway and to suppress future herpes outbreaks in people with the infection. With suppressive treatment, you take the drug continuously to make it harder for the herpes viruses (HSV-1 and HSV-2) to get reactivated and cause new sores.

Generic Valtrex (valacyclovir) joins another herpes treatment, acyclovir (originally branded Zovirax), on the generic market. A third drug for herpes treatment, Famvir (famciclovir), is also available.

All three medications are effective against HSV-1 and HSV-2, either of which can cause genital sores. You can take any of the three episodically (when symptoms are present) or continuously. These medications work by interfering with DNA synthesis to prevent the virus from reproducing. The directions for each medication vary depending on your situation, so pay close attention to the frequency and strength of the medication. Always consult with your provider about which dosing would be most effective for you.

Considerations of cost and convenience may be important factors when you and your provider consider herpes treatment. Points to consider:

Acyclovir (Zovirax) is effective, and its patent expired years ago, so its cost is usually low. The down side of this medication is that you must take it twice a day. Valacyclovir (Valtrex) is also effective and relatively inexpensive. Its plus: You only have to take it once a day. Famciclovir (Famvir) can still be quite expensive because it's not available as a generic drug. Free [Medical Advice](#) published By [Dr Vivienne Balonwu](#).

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