



# Biosimilars and you


**Biologics** are medications that come from living organisms, rather than being made from chemicals like typical medications.<sup>1</sup> Due to this complex production process, there isn't an easy "recipe" to follow, so there aren't generic versions of these medications.

**Biosimilars** are NOT generics, but instead they are highly similar to the originally approved biologic, or the reference product. Like generic medications, they provide patients with **more treatment options** and potentially **lower costs**.<sup>1</sup>

Reference product	Biosimilar(s) <sup>2</sup>
Humira	Hymiroz, Cyltezo, Amjevita
Avastin	Mvasi
Epogen/Procrit	Retacrit
Enbrel	Erelzi
Neupogen	Nivestym, Zarxio
Remicade	Renflexis, Inflectra, Ixifi
Neulasta	Udenyca, Fulphila
Rituxin	Truxima
Herceptin	Ogivri

**BIOSIMILARS**

- ▶ Alternative option to biologic medications
- ▶ Made from living organisms
- ▶ Examples:
  - Amjevita for Humira
  - Inflectra for Remicade
  - Mvasi for Avastin




**SIMILARITIES**

- ▶ Provides more treatment options
- ▶ Drive down costs due to competition

**GENERICS**

- ▶ Alternative option to chemical medications
- ▶ Made from specific chemical processes
- ▶ Examples:
  - Lisinopril for Zestril
  - Amoxicillin for Amoxil
  - Metformin for Glucophage



1. <https://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm436399.htm>  
 2. <https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/HowDrugsareDevelopedandApproved/ApprovalApplications/TherapeuticBiologicApplications/Biosimilars/UCM560162.pdf>



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