

# TrendsRx® Generic Launch Alert

## divalproex sodium extended release (Depakote® ER)\*

### Therapeutic Class \_\_\_\_\_

- Anticonvulsants

### United States Industry Brand Sales† \_\_\_\_\_

- \$911 Million

### Available Dosage Forms and Strengths \_\_\_\_\_

- Oral tablets, extended release; 250mg and 500mg

### Launch Date‡ \_\_\_\_\_

- January 30, 2009

### Market Insight \_\_\_\_\_

- Depakote ER is indicated
  - as monotherapy and adjunctive therapy in the treatment of adult patients and pediatric patients down to the age of 10 years with complex partial seizures that occur either in isolation or in association with other types of seizures;
  - as monotherapy and adjunctive therapy for simple and complex absence seizures in adults and children 10 years of age or older;
  - as adjunctive therapy in adults and children 10 years of age or older with multiple seizure types that include absence seizures;
  - for treatment of acute manic or mixed episodes associated with bipolar disorder, with or without psychotic features; and
  - for prophylaxis of migraine headaches.
- The tablet formulation is AB-rated and will be available as a single-source generic product.
- The generic formulation of Depakote delayed release was approved and launched on July 29, 2008.

### Selected Medications Available in the Class \_\_\_\_\_

- Brands: Topamax® (topiramate, Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical, Inc.), Keppra® (levetiracetam, UCB Inc.)
- Generics (various manufacturers): valproic acid, divalproex sodium, carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, lamotrigine, ethosuximide

## Budget Impact

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- The average wholesale price of divalproex sodium extended release is:
  - 250 mg: \$167.91 per package of 100 tablets
  - 500 mg: \$295.36 per package of 100 tablets
- CVS Caremark will continue to monitor the long-term budget effects of divalproex sodium extended release's introduction into the pharmaceutical marketplace.

## CVS Caremark Response

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- CVS Caremark offers publications and Web-based applications to ensure that our clients receive timely information regarding generic medications.
- In addition, many CVS Caremark physician- and plan participant-targeted offerings are available to help both clients and plan participants realize the significant cost savings that generic medications offer.
- For more information, call your CVS Caremark account representative.

**CVS Caremark encourages the use of generic medications as first-line therapy wherever appropriate.**

**You can count on CVS Caremark to pursue every opportunity to encourage generic utilization with both physicians and plan participants.**

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Please Note: This document provides a brief overview of the subject. This review is provided as a reference only and is based in part on information derived from third parties.

\* This information is current as of February 3, 2009. The information presented is subject to change and is represented to the best of our knowledge at the time of this publication.

† Industry sales data from the last 12 months.

‡ A launch date may not reflect the actual availability of this medication. Due to circumstances beyond the control of CVS Caremark, information related to prospective medication launch dates is subject to change without notice. This information should not be solely relied upon for decision-making purposes. This medication is expected to be available in pharmacies within a few days of launch.

This document contains references to brand-name prescription drugs that are trademarks or registered trademarks of pharmaceutical manufacturers that are not affiliated with CVS Caremark.

## References

- CVS Caremark Generic Contracting Team.
- CVS Caremark Internal Pharmacy Budget Impact, Research and Development.
- Drugs@FDA. Rockville, MD: Food and Drug Administration, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. Depakote ER. <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/drugsatfda/>. Accessed November 17, 2008.
- Facts & Comparisons. Facts & Comparisons Web site. <http://www.factsandcomparisons.com/>. Accessed November 17, 2008.
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