

Will States Save by Importing Drugs from Canada? Yes, Here's How

States can control profit margins and make sure savings are passed on to payers and consumers:

A state can limit imported drug mark-ups and profit margins of suppliers, wholesalers, and distributors.

The state can limit what wholesalers and distributors charge for their administrative services.

Pharmacies and other dispensers must charge payers the Canadian price without any mark-up.

Pharmacies must charge uninsured people or those in their deductible period the Canadian price without any mark-up.

Health plans and other payers pay only the Canadian price without mark-up.

The state audits the program regularly to ensure consumers and payers benefit financially.

Drug Product	Price in the US* **	Price in Canada*** (in USD)
Advair-Diskus (100 mg capsule) GSK	\$9.52	\$3.96
Eliquis (5 mg tablet) Bristol-Myers Squibb	\$6.21	\$1.60
Harvoni (90/400 mg tablet) Gilead Sciences	\$1,090.35	\$797.62
Lyrica (25 mg capsule) Pfizer	\$6.04	\$0.63
Strattera (100 mg tablet) Eli Lilly	\$14.81	\$3.96
Tecfidera (120 mg capsule) Biogen	\$119.24	\$11.92
Tracleer (125 mg tablet) Actelion Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	\$173.09	\$47.18
Triumeq (300 mg tablet) ViiV Healthcare	\$83.36	\$31.51
Xarelto (15 mg tablet) Janssen Inc.	\$12.44	\$2.11



Center for State **Rx** Drug Pricing

*Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Medicaid.gov. National Average Drug Acquisition Cost. Accessed online May 22, 2017 at <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/prescription-drugs/pharmacy-pricing/index.html>

**Drugs.com. Accessed online at <https://www.drugs.com/>

***Government of Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan Online Formulary Database. Accessed online May 22, 2017 at <http://formulary.drugplan.ehealthsask.ca/>