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Prescription Drugs

Policy Statement

The American Osteopathic Association will: urge the FDA to strengthen its inspection and approval procedures and equivalency standards to ensure that generic drugs approved by the FDA are therapeutically equivalent to the brand drug for which they are to be substituted; oppose mandatory use of generic drugs or generic substitution programs that remove control of the treatment program from the physician; urge the development and enactment of public policy that would mandate that prescription drug plans cover name-brand medications when evidence-based treatment protocols recommend their use; act to educate healthcare insurers and managed care companies on the potential dangers of formulary substitutions; support public policy that requires a physician be available for consultation in a timely manner on pharmaceutical formulary and drug substitution decisions; oppose any attempt by federal or state governments to restrict, prohibit, or otherwise impede the prerogative of physicians to prescribe and dispense appropriate medications to their patients; urge the FDA to ensure safe and consistent drug supply that avoids shortages and ensures adequate generic pharmaceutical manufacture and supply for U.S. patients and physicians.

Source: H307-A/22

Status: 1990; 1995 Reaffirmed, 1997; 2002 Reaffirmed as Amended; 2007; 2012 Reaffirmed as Amended; 2017 Reaffirmed as Amended; 2022 Reaffirmed