



Big Savings on Heartburn Medication

San Francisco Electrical Workers Now Covers Prilosec OTC[®]

Prescription strength Prilosec[®] is now available over-the-counter (OTC) for a \$0.00 co-pay. Prilosec OTC[®] is a proton pump inhibitor used to treat chronic heartburn. Using this medication instead of more costly alternatives is a great way to save money on your prescription drug costs.

“Can I just pick up Prilosec OTC[®] off the shelf?”

No, your doctor must still write a prescription for Prilosec OTC[®], just as they would for a prescription medication. Take the prescription to your pharmacy and ask them to bill your insurance for this product. The pharmacist will dispense this medication, like a prescription drug. At this point, your co-pay will be waived, charging you \$0.00.

“What if I am taking a different medication for heartburn and I want to take advantage of these savings?”

All drugs in the proton pump inhibitor class work the same way. Some people may respond better to one drug versus another, but most people can switch from one to another without problems. Always consult your physician before switching medications.

If you are taking ...	You can take Prilosec OTC [®]
Aciphex [®] 20mg	40mg (2 tablets)
Nexium [®] 20mg	40mg (2 tablets)
Nexium [®] 40mg	60mg (3 tablets)
Omeprazole [®] 20mg	20mg (1 tablet)
Prevacid [®] 15mg	20mg (1 tablet)
Prevacid [®] 30mg	40mg (2 tablets)
Prilosec [®] 20mg (RX)	20mg (1 tablet)
Prilosec [®] 40mg (RX)	40mg (2 tablets)
Protonix [®] 20mg	20mg (1 tablet)
Protonix [®] 40mg	40mg (2 tablets)

*Comparative doses are based upon acid suppression and may not always correlate with therapeutic response.

- E.Saltiel, T. Stein. Proton Pump Inhibitors in the treatment of GERD. US Pharmacist April 2000 supp:

- Rohss K. et al. “Esomeprazole 20mg provides more effective intragastric acid control than maintenance-dose rabeprazole, lansoprazole or pantoprazole in healthy volunteers.” Clin Drug Invest 24 (1): 1-7, 2004