

## FACT SHEET

# Lyrica

### DRUG INFORMATION

- **FDA Approval:** 4 total indications. Major disease indications are neuropathic pain (2004) and fibromyalgia (2007)
- **Company:** Pfizer
- **Drug Type:** Small molecule
- **On the U.S. Market since:** 2004
- **Generic/Biosimilar approved by FDA:** Yes (2019)

### PRICING

- **Annual List Price:** \$4,728 (controlled release), \$2,892 (non-controlled release)
- **Price Trend:** 83% increase (2014-2019)
- **Annual Medicare Spending:** \$2,950,257,661<sup>1</sup>
- **Increase in Average Spend per Medicare Beneficiary (2014-2018):** 84%
- **Annual Medicaid Spending:** \$767,025,789
- **Medicare Spending Rank:** 7th

### PATENT LANDSCAPE

- **First Patent Filed:** 1995
- **Total Patent Applications:** 118
- **Patents Issued:** 64
- **Filed After FDA Approval:** 31%
- **Duration of Patent Protection:** 32 years (April 1995 - Dec 2026)

### DELAYED COMPETITION COST BILLIONS

The main compound patent expired in 2013, but secondary patents filed later in the product life cycle gave Pfizer six additional years of patent protection and \$17 billion more in revenue. In July 2019, nine different generic suppliers were approved. This reduced prices by over 90%.

### DID YOU KNOW?

#### The discovery of Lyrica was made possible by public funding

- Lyrica was invented by a chemistry professor at Northwestern University named Richard Silverman with funding from the National Institutes of Health. Northwestern licensed the largely publicly funded drug to Warner-Lambert (later acquired by Pfizer) before it had been tested in a single patient. The agreement included a provision for the university to receive a royalty of 6% on any future net sales.
- U.S. taxpayers are not entitled to any of the revenue from the sale of Lyrica despite having funded the discovery of the drug. Northwestern has received total royalties of USD \$1.4 billion on Lyrica, an estimated 18% of its total endowment<sup>2</sup>. Pfizer has grossed over \$52 billion on Lyrica sales globally in the past 15 years.

VISIT [I-MAK.ORG/LYRICA](https://www.i-mak.org/lyrica)

<sup>1</sup> 2018, most recent year available for all Medicare and Medicaid data

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-08-18/the-pill-that-made-northwestern-rich>