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)

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%.

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
- 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)

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. Pfizer has grossed over $52 billion on Lyrica sales globally in the past 15 years.

1 2018, most recent year available for all Medicare and Medicaid data

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