

**GPC statement - Generic prescribing of Pregabalin
March 2015**

UK wide

A generic version of pregabalin (Lyrica) is shortly to become available, but it only has a license for use in epilepsy and general anxiety disorder with the manufacturer's patent on use for pain control continuing. The manufacturer has indicated their intention to enforce their patent through the courts, and anyone supplying generic pregabalin for pain control might be open to litigation. While this primarily affects dispensing doctors, others might be troubled by pharmacists seeking to confirm the indications for generic prescriptions. We would therefore advise doctors to prescribe Lyrica by brand when used for its pain control indication for the time being.