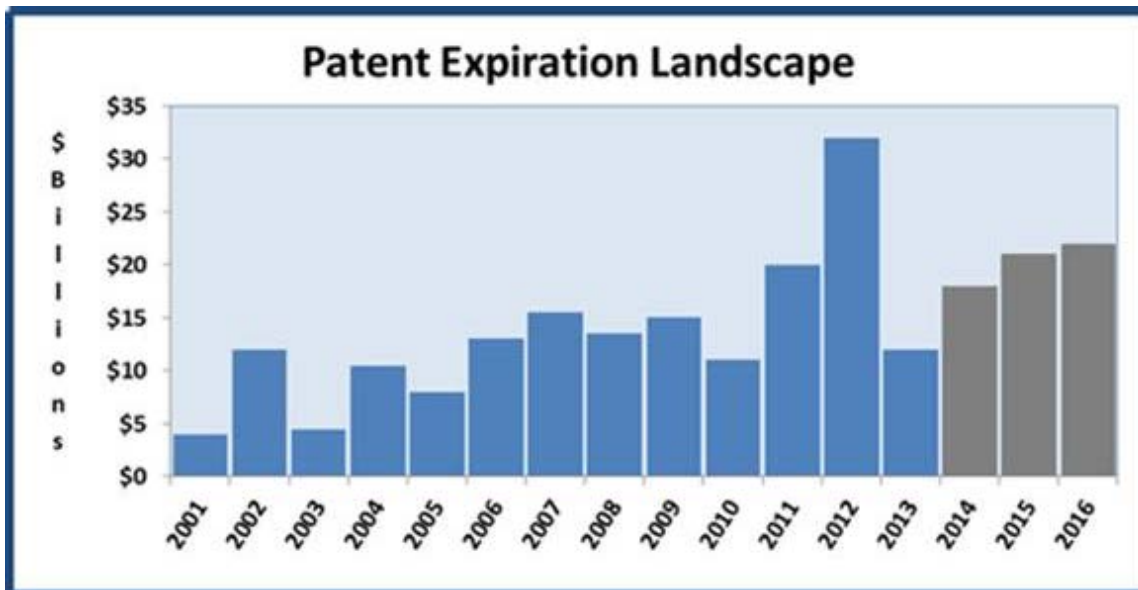




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## As 'Generic Wave' Picks Up Offering Hope for Employers and Plan Sponsors

The generic wave peaked in 2012 when roughly \$32 billion worth of brand-name pharmaceuticals went off patent bringing with it some financial relief for employers and plan sponsors. Fortunately, even more help may be on the way. Opportunity exists for employers and plan sponsors to realize further savings through new generic launches with patent expirations totaling \$18 billion, \$21 billion and \$22 billion respectively for 2014, 2015, and 2016. The following charts, both compiled by national PBM Express Scripts Inc. (ESI), illustrate the generic wave and select, high-dollar patent expirations that are anticipated for 2015.



### Patent Expirations: In 2015 by Month

Drug	Manufacturer	Patent Expiration	Annual Sales (Million)
Welchol	Daiichi-Sankyo	March	\$574
Abilify	Bristol-Myers Squibb	April	\$6,425
Zyvox tablets	Pfizer	May	\$726
EpiPen Auto-Injector	Mylan	June	\$630
Aggrenox	Boehringer Ingelheim	July	\$436
Nexium	AstraZeneca	Mid year 2015	\$6,136*
Namenda	Actavis	July	\$1,843
Androgel 1%	AbbVie	August	\$1,413
Aloxi	Eisai	October	\$466
Asacol HD	Actavis	November	\$394
Avodart / Jalyn	GlaxoSmithKline	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2015	\$588
Patanol	Alcon	December	\$187
Ortho Tri-Cyclen Lo	Janssen	December	\$469

\*Includes over-the-counter sales from Nexium

While pharmacy costs were more moderate in recent years, the cost of specialty medications has been problematic and growing at a double-digit clip annually. Recently, a spike in generic costs has also been alarming. Focused strategies need to be in place around pharmacy plan management including techniques like narrow networks, step therapy, prior authorization, starter-dose, mandatory mail, coinsurance copayments, and 4th tiers; just to name a few.

Conner Strong & Buckelew carefully monitors emerging strategies in pharmacy and also evaluates medications coming off patent. The medications above offer hope for some cost relief, and we'll continue to monitor these and other developments.



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