

## Subject: Authorized Generic for Flector® Patch launched in U.S.

On March 1, 2019, [Teva Pharmaceuticals](#) announced the introduction of an authorized generic for Flector Patch 1.3% (Diclofenac Epolamine),<sup>1</sup> a topical nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID), indicated for the treatment of acute pain due to minor strains, sprains, and contusions.

The concurrent use of Flector Patch and oral diclofenac is not recommended except under close medical care, and the Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) lists Flector Patch as an “N” drug (not recommended for first-line treatment).

Alternatives to Flector Patch® may include other topical diclofenac products, including generic diclofenac topical solutions and gels, as well as Pennsaid®, a branded transdermal solution, containing diclofenac. Oral NSAIDs, in general, are better studied, have a broader range of indications for use, and are preferred unless the patient has a clinical contraindication to their use.

### The Impact

Topical analgesic medications are frequently prescribed in workers’ compensation treatment settings and are included in the top 10 drug categories for spend at First Script. We will continue monitoring and reporting on the impact of Flector Patch and its authorized generic alternatives. For more information, please contact your Account Manager or Account Pharmacist.

<sup>1</sup><https://www.tevapharm.com/news/teva-announces-launch-of-an-authorized-generic-of-flector-patch-diclofenac-epolamine-topical-patch-in-the-united-states-03-19.aspx>