

## Annual Difference between the Lowest Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Prices and Lowest Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) Prices for the Top Seven Drugs Used by Seniors in 2004

Drug Name	Strength	Lowest VA Price Per Year	Lowest PDP Price Per Year	Price Difference Per Year	Percent Difference
Plavix	75 mg	\$ 887.16	\$ 1,229.64	\$ 342.48	38.6%
Lipitor	10 mg	\$ 497.16	\$ 717.84	\$ 220.68	44.4%
Fosamax	70 mg	\$ 493.32	\$ 709.68	\$ 216.36	43.9%
Norvasc	5 mg	\$ 301.68	\$ 458.88	\$ 157.20	52.1%
Protonix	40 mg	\$ 253.32	\$ 1,080.00	\$ 826.68	326.3%
Celebrex	200 mg	\$ 619.80	\$ 865.08	\$ 245.28	39.6%
Zocor	20 mg	\$ 167.80	\$ 1,323.72	\$ 1,155.92	688.9%

Source: Families USA, *Falling Short: Medicare Prescription Drug Plans Offer Meager Savings*, December 2005

## Price Comparison between the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Medicare Drug Plans (PDP) Recommended by the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder for Someone Taking the Five Most Frequently Prescribed Drugs

Drug	Lowest VA Price	Humana Inc.	First Health Premier	Medi-Care First	PacifiCare Saver Plan	WellCare Signature
Plavix	\$887.16	\$1,236.00	\$1,453.56	\$1,333.44	\$1,323.00	\$1,280.76
Lipitor	\$497.16	\$718.80	\$892.80	\$773.64	\$805.08	\$742.32
Fosamax	\$493.32	\$709.68	\$840.72	\$763.68	\$787.88	\$732.84
Norvasc	\$301.68	\$461.52	\$551.76	\$495.24	\$490.08	\$474.48
Protonix	\$253.32	\$1,080.00	\$1,271.76	\$1,164.48	\$1,155.12	\$1,118.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,432.64</b>	<b>\$4,206.00</b>	<b>\$5,010.60</b>	<b>\$4,530.48</b>	<b>\$4,561.16</b>	<b>\$4,348.80</b>
		<b>73% higher</b>	<b>106% higher</b>	<b>86% higher</b>	<b>87% higher</b>	<b>79% higher</b>

Source: Families USA, *Falling Short: Medicare Prescription Drug Plans Offer Meager Savings*, December 2005