

## FDA: generic copaxone approved for multiple sclerosis

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(HealthDay)—The first U.S. generic version of Copaxone (glatiramer acetate injection) has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration to treat multiple sclerosis.

The brand-name drug is produced by Israel-based Teva Pharmaceuticals. License to produce the <u>generic equivalent</u> of Copaxone was issued to the Swiss-based drug maker Sandoz, the FDA said Thursday in a news release.

The most common side effects of Copaxone include injection-site redness and pain, vasodilation, rash, shortness of breath, and chest pain.

"Health care professionals and patients can be assured that FDA-approved generic drugs have met the same rigorous standards of quality as the brand-name drug," Janet Woodcock, M.D., director of the FDA's



Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, said in a statement. "Before approving this generic product, given its complexity, we reviewed additional information to make sure that the generic product is as safe and effective as the brand-name product."

**More information:** More Information

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