



# Changing from Niaspan to Slo-Niacin Tablets

## INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Your doctor may have approved a change in your niacin medicine from Niaspan to Slo-Niacin tablets.

Niaspan and Slo-Niacin are both slow-release forms of niacin. They work the same way in your body to lower cholesterol levels and have similar side effects.

Slo-Niacin is available at the lower generic co-pay for members with a tiered drug benefit while Niaspan is priced at the higher brand co-pay. If you are a Medicare Part D member, however, the cost of Slo-Niacin is shown below. Slo-Niacin costs less than most Medicare members' prescription brand co-pays and does not contribute toward the Total Drug Cost.

<u>Retail Price for 100 tablets</u>	
Slo-Niacin 250 mg tablets	\$ 7.95
Slo-Niacin 500 mg tablets	\$12.95
Slo-Niacin 750 mg tablets	\$16.85

### Tips to help you make a smooth transition:

- Niaspan and Slo-Niacin tablets contain the same medicine, so do NOT take them both.
- It's best to use up your remaining supply of Niaspan tablets FIRST, then start taking the Slo-Niacin tablets. Your Slo-Niacin directions may be different from your Niaspan directions so please follow the Slo-Niacin prescription label carefully.
- It is important that you get a blood test 6 to 8 weeks AFTER you switch to Slo-Niacin tablets, **OR** at your next regularly scheduled lab visit, to evaluate your cholesterol levels and liver function. You may go to any Kaiser Permanente lab for the test and no appointment is needed.

*Our pharmacists are here to help you get the most benefit from your medicines. Please speak with your pharmacist if you have any questions about this change.*