

BIOLOGICS, BIOSIMILARS & INTERCHANGEABLES

Biological medications are used to treat a variety of conditions, such as arthritis, diabetes and cancer. These targeted medications are typically offered as injections or infusions.

There are three types of biologics:

First marketed

1982



INNOVATOR BIOLOGICS

- Complex drugs manufactured from living sources, such as microorganisms, tissue or plant cells

2015



BIOSIMILARS

- Follow-on drugs based on innovator biologics
- No clinically meaningful difference from the innovator

2021



INTERCHANGEABLE BIOSIMILARS

- Biosimilars that the FDA designated interchangeable after undergoing further testing and meeting additional requirements
- May be swapped with the innovator without the prescribing health care provider's involvement in all 50 states

SAFE TO USE

All biological medications are safe to use once they've been approved by the FDA.



With the right policies in place, the growing number of biologics, biosimilars and interchangeables will offer patients and providers more treatment options.