

# UNDERSTANDING YOUR BIOSIMILAR MEDICATION

Biosimilars are medications that are compared to original biologic medications that have already been FDA approved<sup>1,2</sup>

Each biosimilar is made and proven to be highly similar to the biologic it is based on (the reference drug)<sup>2</sup>

## CAREFULLY EVALUATED<sup>1</sup>

The FDA requires proof that a biosimilar is as safe and effective as the reference drug



Data, studies, and tests



Ongoing safety monitoring



Quality checks of where and how it's made

## PROVEN SIMILARITY<sup>1,2</sup>

A biosimilar is only FDA approved if it has **no clinically meaningful differences from the reference drug**



**SAME** benefits



**SAME** strength and dosing



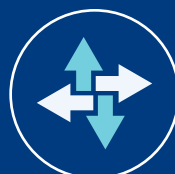
**SAME** administration



**SAME** possible side effects

Treatment may start with a biosimilar or you may be switched to one<sup>3</sup>

## PROVIDES MORE TREATMENT OPTIONS<sup>1</sup>



More options



Lower costs



More competition among medicines

# IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS FOR BIOSIMILARS

**Biosimilars, like all biologics, require:<sup>1,2</sup>**

**SCIENTIFIC  
EXPERTISE  
TO DEVELOP**



**MANUFACTURING  
EXPERIENCE  
TO SUPPLY**



## **Makers of biosimilars can offer you additional support**

- Educational information about your health condition and treatment options
- Help understanding and managing insurance coverage and related costs
- Lifestyle tips that may support your health

To learn more about biosimilars, visit  
[www.fda.gov/drugs/biosimilars/patient-materials](http://www.fda.gov/drugs/biosimilars/patient-materials)

**References:** **1.** US Food and Drug Administration. Biosimilar basics. [www.fda.gov/media/130918/download](http://www.fda.gov/media/130918/download). Accessed February 5, 2020. **2.** US Food and Drug Administration. What is a biosimilar? [www.fda.gov/media/108905/download](http://www.fda.gov/media/108905/download). Accessed February 5, 2020. **3.** US Food and Drug Administration. Patient materials: biosimilar basics for patients. [www.fda.gov/drugs/biosimilars/patient-materials](http://www.fda.gov/drugs/biosimilars/patient-materials). Accessed February 5, 2020.