

Several drug manufacturers recently announced they will market a generic equivalent of valacyclovir, marketed by manufacturer GlaxoSmithKline as Valtrex® in the U.S.

In November 2009, Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd, began U.S. manufacture of valacyclovir HCL, the generic equivalent of Valtrex®. In May 2010, the market expanded rapidly as at least eight other drug makers announced receiving FDA approval to launch their respective versions of valacyclovir tablets in the U.S.

The FDA offers a [list of the 2010 approvals](#) . Valacyclovir is approved to treat both oral and genital herpes lesions. The drug can also be taken daily to decrease recurrent genital herpes outbreaks, and to lessen the likelihood the virus will be transmitted to a partner.