Just one day after President-elect Donald Trump took aim at the drug industry for lining their pockets, the drug store CVS announces it will sell a generic version of the EpiPen for a fraction of the price.

**Keywords**

**Citation**

MLA
CVS to Sell Generic Version of EpiPen as Cigna Drops EpiPen

LESTER HOLT, anchor:
There’s a major development to report tonight on the outrage over the soaring price of EpiPens, which so many people with life-threatening allergies depend on. You may recall the price hit $600 last summer. Today, the nation’s largest pharmacy chain, CVS, announced it will offer a generic competing product that delivers the same life-saving medication, but at a much cheaper price. Here’s NBC’s Tom Costello.

TOM COSTELLO, reporting:
Just one day after President-elect Trump took aim at the drug industry--

DONALD TRUMP: They’re getting away with murder.

COSTELLO: --pharmacy giant CVS today announced it’s taking on the EpiPen, selling a generic version of a competing EpiStick, charging just $110 for a two-pack. Consumer advocates call it a huge win.

LISA GILL: When you are talking saving $500 to $600 a year and sometimes more, maybe into-- even into the thousands, it is a-- it’s a game changer, and we’re excited about it.

COSTELLO: EpiPens can save the life of anyone having a severe allergic reaction, very often children. But its maker, Mylan Pharmaceuticals, stoked a public-relations backlash by raising prices from $100 to $600 over 10 years. Under fire, it offered its own generic for $300. And just this week, Cigna Insurance said it will no longer pay for the $600 pens. The new CVS generic is called Adrenaclick. It delivers the same dose of epinephrine in an auto-injector that analysts say is nearly identical to the EpiPen and easy to use.

HELENA FOULKES: For most consumers, they will pay a price of $109.99 less the $100 coupon. So the net to them is only $9.99.

COSTELLO: But in Colorado, Nicole Smith isn’t yet convinced. An EpiPen already saved her son Morgan’s life once when he went into anaphylactic shock.

NICOLE SMITH: I’m not comfortable with the Adrenaclick being easy. And I have been trained on it, and it was difficult for me.

COSTELLO: But for millions of Americans who’ve struggled to pay the price, tonight, a generic competitor is driving prices lower. Tom Costello, NBC News, Washington.