CVS Stops Selling Tobacco

September 4, 2014

CVS Caremark has rebranded itself CVS Health after stopping sales of all tobacco products in its stores nationwide, The New York Times reports. Smoking cessation products have replaced tobacco on the shelves.

The company announced in February that it would make this move by October. CVS Health is the first major U.S. retail pharmacy chain to stop tobacco sales. The company estimates the decision may reduce its total sales by $2 billion.

The change may make CVS Health more appealing to health clinic partners. The company will run nearly 200 clinics this year and plans to operate 1,500 clinics by 2017. It is still unclear if other retail chains also will stop tobacco sales.

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