## Subject: Ranitidine notice.

## https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-requests-removal-all-ranitidine-productszantac-market

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration today announced it is requesting manufacturers withdraw all prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) ranitidine drugs from the market immediately. This is the latest step in an ongoing investigation of a contaminant known as N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) in ranitidine medications (commonly known by the brand name Zantac). The agency has determined that the impurity in some ranitidine products increases over time and when stored at higher than room temperatures and may result in consumer exposure to unacceptable levels of this impurity. As a result of this immediate market withdrawal request, ranitidine products will not be available for new or existing prescriptions or OTC use in the U.S.

The FDA is also advising consumers taking OTC ranitidine to stop taking any tablets or liquid they currently have, dispose of them properly and not buy more; for those who wish to continue treating their condition, they should consider using other approved OTC products.

In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the FDA recommends patients and consumers not take their medicines to a drug take-back location but follow the specific disposal instructions in the medication guide or package insert or follow the agency's recommended steps, which include ways to safely dispose of these medications at home. <u>https://www.fda.gov/drugs/safe-disposal-medicines/disposal-unused-medicines-what-you-should-know</u>

Tulalip Clinical Pharmacy staff is currently working on obtaining new prescriptions for replacement therapy for all patients with recent ranitidine prescriptions. Patients who signed up for our RxReady notification service will receive messages when your replacement prescriptions are ready. Medbox patients will be contacted by our staff to assist in transitioning to a replacement therapy. Other patients can call 360-716-2660 or text 425-491-1094 to inquire about your ranitidine replacement options. In addition, FDA recommends that patients taking prescription ranitidine should speak with their health care professional about other treatment options before stopping any medicine.



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