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## Why did the Food and Drug Administration issue a warning about Actos?

In June 2011, the FDA warned doctors and patients about a link between <u>Actos and</u> <u>bladder cancer</u> after a study revealed that some patients taking the drug were more likely to develop the disease than those who took other diabetes medications.

## What actions have been taken as a result of the FDA's Actos warning?

Following the FDA's warning, Takeda Pharmaceuticals—the manufacturer of Actos was required to strengthen the warning label for the drug by including information about the link between Actos and cancer of the bladder.

## Do all Actos users face an increased risk of developing bladder cancer?

According to the FDA's warning about Actos, patients who were treated with Actos for more than one year or who were prescribed the highest doses of Actos are at an increased risk of developing bladder cancer.

## How likely are Actos users to develop bladder cancer?

According to the new label that was added to Actos following the FDA warning, patients who use Actos for more than one year are 40% more likely to develop bladder cancer.

## Was Actos the only diabetes drug included in the FDA's bladder cancer warning?

In addition to warning about the link between Actos and bladder cancer, the FDA also warned about an increased cancer risk posed by other drugs that contain the same active ingredient (pioglitazone) as Actos, including Actoplus Met, Actoplus Met XR and Duetact.

# What are the signs that I may have bladder cancer?

The FDA's Actos warning advised patients to speak to their doctor if they develop any <u>bladder cancer symptoms</u>, which include blood or red color in the urine, urgent need to urinate, lower back pain or abdominal pain.

# Will the FDA issue an Actos recall?

The FDA has not announced any plans to issue a recall notice for Actos. However, health officials in France and Germany have already ordered sales of Actos to be stopped in those two countries because of the bladder cancer risk.

## Have any lawsuits against Actos been filed?

The first <u>Actos lawsuits</u> were filed in August 2011 on behalf of patients who developed bladder cancer after taking the drug. Actos lawyers have predicted that thousands of cases may eventually be filed on behalf of patients who develop the disease.

## Am I eligible to file an Actos lawsuit?

Patients who used Actos and have been diagnosed with bladder cancer—or who have developed symptoms of the disease—may be eligible to <u>file a lawsuit</u>. For a free legal consultation, contact the attorneys at Hissey Kientz, LLP by calling toll-free at 1-866-275-4454, or by filling the free case evaluation form located on this page.