

Suicide Warnings Strengthened for Two Drugs

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The drug maker Johnson & Johnson recently strengthened warnings about the risk of suicide with both Ultram and Ultracet painkillers. The impetus was the fact that deaths were reported in patients with histories of emotional disturbance or drug abuse. These drugs are especially dangerous when combined with alcohol use or with other prescription medication.

The new warnings say that Ultram and Ultracet should not be given to patients who are also taking tranquilizers or antidepressants. The drugs also should not be given to patients who are suicidal or prone to addiction.

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