FDA Recall of Ranitidine (Zantac) Products

**Announcement:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has ordered an immediate withdrawal of all ranitidine (Zantac) products from the U.S. market. Ranitidine is a popular medication available both as a prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) product to treat a variety of gastrointestinal disorders. The withdrawal is a result of evidence that has shown the presence of N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) above the acceptable daily intake levels established by the FDA. NDMA has been classified as a probable human carcinogen (a substance that could cause cancer). This recent announcement from the FDA recommends consumers to stop taking any ranitidine products they currently have. To continue treatment with an alternative medication, a member should contact their health care provider for recommendations. There are multiple drugs approved for the same or similar uses as ranitidine that do not carry the same risks from NDMA. Alternative medications that could be considered include famotidine (Pepcid), esomeprazole (Nexium), lansoprazole (Prevacid), or omeprazole (Prilosec).

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