

FDA warns against Mitsubi Tanabe's type 2 diabetes drug

14 September 2015 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau

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Singapore: US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has warned against type 2 diabetes medicine, canagliflozin (Invokana, Invokamet), developed by Japan's Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma and marketed by Janssen, for the risk of increasing chances of bone fractures and decrease bone mineral density.

To address the safety concerns, FDA has added warning labels on the drug about the related risks.

Canagliflozin is a prescription medicine used with diet and exercise to lower blood sugar in adults with type 2 diabetes. It belongs to a class of drugs called sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 (SGLT2) inhibitors. Untreated, type 2 diabetes can lead to serious problems, including blindness, nerve and kidney damage, and heart disease. Canagliflozin lowers blood sugar by causing the kidneys to remove sugar from the body through the urine. It is available as a single-ingredient product under the brand name Invokana and also in combination with the diabetes medicine metformin under the brand name Invokamet.