

AvKare – Recall of ranitidine

- On October 25, 2019, [AvKare announced](#) the voluntary, consumer-level recall of prescription [ranitidine](#) due to potential contamination with N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA).
- AvKare’s recall is due to the recent consumer level recall of Dr. Reddy’s ranitidine products. Dr. Reddy’s initially announced retail level recalls for prescription and OTC ranitidine in early October; however, the recall of prescription ranitidine products were escalated to the consumer level. The recall of OTC ranitidine remains at the retail level.

Product Description	NDC#	Lot# (Expiration Date)
Ranitidine 150mg capsules, 500 count bottle	42291-735-50	17708 (11/30/2019); 18459 (03/31/2020); 19031 (06/30/2020); 19033 (07/31/2020); 19032 (07/31/2020); 20204 (09/30/2020); 20205 (09/30/2020); 20663 (10/31/2020); 20664 (11/30/2020); 20665 (11/30/2020); 20666 (11/30/2020); 21039 (12/31/2020); 21920 (04/30/2021)
Ranitidine 300mg capsules, 500 count bottle	42291-736-50	17709 (01/31/2020); 18460 (02/29/2020); 19853 (09/30/2020); 22362 (11/30/2020); 22579 (11/30/2020)

- Other manufacturers, including [Apotex](#), [Perrigo](#) and [Sanofi](#) have recently announced retail level recalls of their OTC ranitidine products.
- In September, [Sandoz](#) issued a consumer level recall of prescription ranitidine products.
- These recalls follow a recent [FDA statement](#) about NDMA impurities detected in ranitidine medicines.
- NDMA is classified as a probable human carcinogen based on results from laboratory tests. NDMA is a known environmental contaminant and found in water and foods, including meats, dairy products, and vegetables.
- Ranitidine is an OTC and prescription drug. Ranitidine is an H2 (histamine-2) blocker, which decreases the amount of acid created by the stomach.
- OTC ranitidine is approved to prevent and relieve heartburn associated with acid ingestion and sour stomach. Prescription ranitidine is approved for multiple indications, including treatment and prevention of ulcers of the stomach and intestines and treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disease.

- The FDA does not have scientific evidence to recommend whether individuals should continue or stop taking ranitidine medicines at this time. The agency is conducting further tests to determine the risk to consumers.
- Consumers taking OTC ranitidine may consider using other OTC products approved for their condition. To date, the FDA's testing has not found NDMA in alternatives such as [Pepcid® \(famotidine\)](#), [Tagamet® \(cimetidine\)](#), [Nexium® \(esomeprazole\)](#), [Prevacid® \(lansoprazole\)](#) and [Prilosec® \(omeprazole\)](#).
- Patients taking prescription ranitidine who wish to discontinue use should talk to their health care professional about other treatment options. Multiple drugs are approved for the same or similar uses as ranitidine.
- Patients should contact their physician or healthcare provider if they have experienced any problems that may be related to using the recalled ranitidine.
- Anyone with an existing inventory of the recalled product should quarantine the product immediately.
- The FDA is continuing to test ranitidine products from multiple manufacturers and assess the possible effect on patients who have been taking ranitidine. Additionally, the FDA recently released a second testing method for manufacturers and regulators to detect and quantify NDMA in ranitidine.
- The FDA will take appropriate measures based on the results of this ongoing investigation. Some manufacturers have chosen to stop distribution of ranitidine as a precautionary measure while the FDA and other international regulators conduct their investigations of the NDMA impurity.
- The FDA continues to evaluate the safety of ranitidine and will provide more information as it becomes available.
- Contact AvKare at **1-931-292-6229** for further information regarding this recall.



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