

■ **The antihypertensives Aceon [perindopril], Altace [ramipril] and Atacand [candesartan cilexetil] were all issued boxed warnings by the US FDA in April 2012.**

The warnings advise that these drugs should be discontinued as soon as possible when pregnancy is detected, due to the associated risks of fetal toxicity. Such drugs that act directly on the renin-angiotensin system can cause injury and death to the developing fetus. The antifungal Sporanox [itraconazole] also received a boxed warning in April, regarding the risks of adverse cardiac effects and interactions with a number of drugs, particularly calcium channel blockers and methadone. Finally, the immunosuppressant Zortress [everolimus] was issued a boxed warning from the FDA in April, regarding the associated risks of malignancies and serious infections, as well as kidney graft thrombosis and nephrotoxicity, and mortality in heart transplant recipients. Zortress is not recommended in patients undergoing heart transplantation.

FDA. April Safety Labeling Changes. Internet Document : 14 May 2012.

Available from: URL: <http://www.fda.gov>

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