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## Drug Safety Communication: Saxagliptin, Alogliptin and Risk of Heart Failure

A United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) safety review has found that medicines containing saxagliptin and alogliptin may increase the risk of heart failure, particularly in patients who already have heart or kidney disease. On April 5, 2016, the FDA announced they added new information to the *Warnings and Precautions* sections for labels of medications containing saxagliptin or alogliptin to inform patients of the potential increased risk of heart failure.

Saxagliptin and alogliptin are part of the class of prescription medicines called dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitors, which are used with diet and exercise to control high blood sugar in adults with type 2 diabetes. A list of medications containing saxagliptin and alogliptin is shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Medications Containing Saxagliptin and Alogliptin**

Brand Name	Active Ingredient(s)
Onglyza	saxagliptin
Kombiglyze XR	saxagliptin and metformin extended release
Nesina	alogliptin
Kazano	alogliptin and metformin
Oseni	alogliptin and pioglitazone

Patients taking these medications should seek medical attention immediately if they develop signs or symptoms of heart failure, such as unusual shortness of breath during daily activities, trouble breathing when lying down, tiredness, weakness, or fatigue, and/or weight gain with swelling in the ankles, feet, legs, or stomach.

Health care providers should consider discontinuing these medications in patients who develop heart failure. If a patient's blood sugar level is not well-controlled with their current treatment, other diabetes medicines may be required.

To read the full MedWatch safety alert, refer to the "FDA Drug Safety Communication: FDA adds warnings about heart failure risk to labels of type 2 diabetes medicines containing saxagliptin and alogliptin" article found on the [Drug Safety and Availability](#) Web page of the FDA website.