Actos Linked To Bladder Cancer

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)[1]issued a safety announcement June 15, 2011 stating that there may be a connection between using the prescription drug Actos for more than one year and a risk of bladder cancer. The warning comes just days after two European countries banned use of the drug. The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has yet to release any guidelines on use of Actos.

Actos is part of a class of drugs known as thiazolidinediones that is used to treat type 2 diabetes. It is designed to help control blood sugar levels by increasing the body's sensitivity to insulin. New research indicates that Actos users may face more of a risk of bladder cancer after extended use of Actos. While there have been new warnings put out for Actos, some experts contend that Actos should be recalled due to the increased risk of bladder cancer.

Actos is available in several medication forms including:

Actos (pioglitazone)
Actoplus Met (pioglitazone/metformin)
Actoplus Met XR (pioglitazone/metformin extended-release)
Duetact (pioglitazone/glimepiride)

At least 11 lawsuits have been filed accusing Takeda Pharmaceuticals and other defendants of negligence and failure to adequately warn patients and doctors about Actos' association with an increased risk of bladder cancer. Plaintiffs are now seeking to have all pending lawsuits consolidated in multidistrict litigation (MDL) and transferred to U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois.

The attorneys of Tate Law Group have successfully litigated hundreds of pharmaceutical claims in consolidated actions across the country and currently hold leadership roles on numerous executives committees in other pharmaceutical MDLs. If you or someone you know was prescribed Actos and has been diagnosed with bladder cancer, please call Tate Law Group today toll-free at (866) 610-7107 (or) contact us online.