



**DIVE BRIEF** 

## FDA gives approval to 3-D printed prescription drug

Published March 24, 2016

By Ana Mulero

Associate Editor

## **Dive Brief:**

- The first FDA approved 3-D printed prescription drug is now available on the U.S. market, Aprecia
  Pharmaceuticals announced Tuesday.
- SPRITAM, approved by the FDA in 2015, treats partial onset seizures, myoclonic seizures, and primary generalized tonic-clonic seizures and can disintegrates in the patient's mouth.
- SPRITAM is now available in four unit-dose strengths 250 mg, 500 mg, 750 mg, and 1,000 mg.

## **Dive Insight:**

"As we explored potential applications for our 3D printing technology in prescription drug products, it was important that we identified disease areas with a real need for patient-friendly forms of medication," Apred My Research Folder Q statement.

According to the CDC, about 2.4 million people were living with active epilepsy in 2013 - about 1% of adults 18 years or older.

In January, Aprecia completed a fundraising round led by Deerfield Management Co. with \$35 million, the Philadelphia Business Journal reports.

Just last month, a team of researchers at Wake Forest School of Medicine devised a way to 3-D print human-scale bone, muscle, and cartilage, Healthcare Dive previously reported.