

Axona is a brand new medical food for treating Alzheimer's. It is regulated by the FDA. It works by providing an alternative energy source for brain cells

The following video provides an overview of Axona, an FDA-regulated Alzheimer's treatment. The article below it and the links to other articles provide more depth, detail and facts.

Axona is a medical food for the clinical dietary management of the metabolic processes associated with mild-to-moderate Alzheimer's disease (AD). Its manufacturer, Accera, Inc., introduced Axona in the United States in the spring of 2009. Dispensed by prescription, it targets the metabolic deficiencies and imbalances associated with Alzheimer's by providing an alternative energy source for brain cells.

Axona represents a new approach to helping manage Alzheimer's symptoms and has been shown in clinical trials to safely improve cognitive function and memory in patients diagnosed with mild to moderate AD..

"We are happy to have this new therapeutic approach to add to our management strategies for this terrible disease,"* said Jeffrey L. Cummings, M.D., Director, Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research at UCLA, and a consultant to Accera. "By approaching the disease in a new way, Axona addresses a metabolic abnormality of Alzheimer's disease that has not previously been examined. The goal of therapy is to optimize cognitive function. Axona is safe and can be used with other common therapies for Alzheimer's."

Alzheimer's disease is a progressive and fatal neurological disease characterized by a substantial decrease in the brain's ability to metabolize glucose, which is the brain's primary source of energy. Known as hypometabolism, this defect may contribute to both the clinical and pathological course of the disease. Axona targets the metabolic defects of glucose utilization in the brain by providing an alternative energy source. Axona is digested and metabolized by the liver to form ketone bodies, naturally occurring compounds produced by the body at low levels. These ketone bodies act as a secondary energy source for the brain to help maintain and improve cognitive function.

"It's a novel and effective approach to Alzheimer's disease," said Steve Orndorff, Ph.D., founder and CEO, Accera, Inc. "Similar to how insulin helps diabetics, Axona supplements energy for the brain so that neurons can continue to function properly and patients can maintain cognition. As a company focused on developing new therapies for central nervous system disorders, we're very excited about Axona's potential to help the AD community."*

Axona was evaluated in a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled study performed at multiple U.S. clinical centers in a population of 152 patients with probable mild-to-moderate Alzheimer's disease. Patients taking Axona demonstrated significant improvements in cognitive function by day 45 (as measured by the Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale-Cognitive subscale or ADAS-Cog score).

These patients also maintained a slight improvement from baseline after 90 days of daily Axona administration, whereas the placebo group demonstrated a decline. In these trials Axona was demonstrated to be safe, effective and generally well-tolerated.

Axona is supplied as a powder formulation in individual packets. Contents should be mixed with water and consumed at breakfast. With simple administration and once-a-day convenience, Axona is complementary to current Alzheimer's therapies.