

Montelukast: The Asthma Medication Now Has A Boxed Warning



By [Neela Bandla](#) on April 30

Montelukast is a medication used as an alternative to an inhaler in those with asthma, especially children. It was created in 1998 by the company Merck. Since 2019, however, there has been evidence that this specific medication may trigger neuropsychiatric effects. Although There is no reason for causation to be concluded. at the time this article was written, there is correlation that has been noted.

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Food and Drug Administration had put a black box warning on the medication. Black box warnings are used for items that pose a

significant health risk; cigarettes are an example of an item to have this warning. This shows that there are significant effects that have been shown to indicate that there could be life-threatening risks.

According to Reuters, it has been shown that Montelukast was present in the brain, and it binds to the receptors that govern mood. The effects of this are depression, sleep disturbances, suicidal ideations, etc. The implications of this are significant because of the demographic this medication is advertised to: children. Having these side effects for children can be very detrimental to their mental health and their mental growth.

Understanding why Montelukast is such a dangerous medication is crucial in figuring out the mental and physical implications of it. Parents should be more careful with it and use it as another option to view, not the first option to pick. Protecting children from harm is the main priority, and restricting this medication does exactly that.

Sources

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