

Invokana and Below the Knee Amputation

White Paper

Invokana (canagliflozin) is a medication used to treat Type 2 diabetes. Patients taking the drug should be aware that recent studies show the drug adds to their already high risk for below the knee amputation. In 2017 the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ordered a black box warning added to the product's package inserts to insure doctors and patients are fully informed.

The FDA, through its *Drug and Safety Communication*, has monitored Invokana evaluations since 2015.

Johnson & Johnson's subsidiary Janssen Global has earned over \$1 billion dollars from this drug.

Invokana was introduced in 2013, the first of several newly developed Sodium Glucose transporter 2 (SGT2) inhibitors. Risks and warnings should have been added at that time. Unfortunately, over 1,000 diabetics have lost limbs as a result of taking the drug.

CANVAS and CANVAS-R are two 2016 Invokana clinical trials conducted by Canvas Clinical Research. One group of subjects was given the drug, while other participants received a placebo.

Collected data determined that patients taking the drug were twice as likely to require below the knee amputation when compared with those receiving the placebo.

Another major concern is development of diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA), a reduction of insulin levels which can be fatal. Consistently high blood sugar while taking Invokana may lead to hospitalization, comas, and other life-threatening events as the body responds to the condition. DKA means glucose is not reaching cells, the liver overloads with blood sugar, and fat is broken down too rapidly for the body to process.

SGT2 drugs are formulated to eliminate excess blood sugar through urination. As a result side effects also include urinary tract infections and kidney injuries. Beware of changes, one of the first indications of an Invokana amputation is dehydration due to increased urination.

If you, or someone you know is currently taking the drug, consult with a medical professional.

If an amputation has already occurred, seek legal advice. You have rights, and may be eligible for compensation. Big Pharma must be accountable for lack of disclosure. Allow the best legal professionals to handle your claim.

For further assistance visit www.medrecallnews.com/invokana