

# FDA adds new safety information to statin drugs

February 28 2012

---

(AP) -- Federal health officials are adding new safety warnings about risks of memory loss and elevated blood sugar to statins, a widely prescribed group of cholesterol-lowering medications.

The Food and Drug Administration announced several labeling changes to medicines like Lipitor, Crestor and Zocor.

Labeling on all such drugs will warn of memory loss and confusion reported among certain patients taking statins. The problems were generally not serious and went away after patients stopped taking the drugs, according to the FDA.

The updated labels will also mention elevated levels of blood sugar reported in some patients taking statins.

Statin drugs are mainly prescribed to prevent heart attacks in people with [clogged arteries](#) and work by dramatically lowering LDL or "[bad cholesterol](#)." They were the third best-selling drug class in the U.S. for 2010.

©2012 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Citation: FDA adds new safety information to statin drugs (2012, February 28) retrieved 10 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2012-02-fda-safety-statin-drugs.html>

---

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.