

# Certain psychiatric drugs linked with elevated pneumonia risk

January 9 2019

---

A review of published studies indicates that use of benzodiazepines and benzodiazepine related drugs (BZRDs), which are prescribed to treat various psychiatric diseases, may increase the risk of pneumonia.

The *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry* analysis included 12 reports related to 10 studies involving more than 120,000 pneumonia cases. After pooling the [estimates](#), the odds for developing pneumonia were 1.25-fold higher in BZRD users compared with individuals who had not taken BZRDs.

There was an increased risk of pneumonia among current and recent users, but not past users.

**More information:** *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, [DOI: 10.1002/gps.5048](#)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Certain psychiatric drugs linked with elevated pneumonia risk (2019, January 9) retrieved 20 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2019-01-psychiatric-drugs-linked-elevated-pneumonia.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.