

Suicidal ideation, behaviors show no increase with GLP-1 RAs for seniors with type 2 diabetes: Study

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For older adults with type 2 diabetes (T2D), use of glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor agonists (GLP-1 RAs) is not associated with a significantly

increased risk for suicidal ideation and behaviors, according to a study [published](#) online July 16 in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Huilin Tang, from the University of Florida College of Pharmacy in Gainesville, and colleagues examined the association between GLP-1 RAs versus sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitors (SGLT2is) or dipeptidyl peptidase 4 [inhibitors](#) (DPP4is) and the risk for suicidal ideation and behaviors among [older adults](#) with T2D in two target trial emulation studies using U.S. national Medicare administrative data from January 2017 to December 2020. In each pairwise comparison, new GLP-1 RA users were matched in a 1:1 ratio on propensity score to new users of SGLT2is or DPP4is.

Overall, 21,807 pairs of patients treated with a GLP-1 RA versus an SGLT2i and 21,402 pairs of patients treated with a GLP-1 RA versus a DPP4i were included in the analyses. The researchers found that the hazard ratios of suicidal ideation and behaviors were not significantly different for GLP-1 RAs versus SGLT2is (1.07; 95% confidence interval, 0.80 to 1.45) or for GLP-1 RAs versus DPP4is (0.94; 95% confidence interval, 0.71 to 1.24).

"Among Medicare beneficiaries with T2D, this study found no clear increased risk for [suicidal ideation](#) and behaviors with GLP-1 RAs, although estimates were imprecise and a modest adverse effect could not be ruled out," the authors write.

More information: Huilin Tang et al, Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonists and Risk for Suicidal Ideation and Behaviors in U.S. Older Adults With Type 2 Diabetes, *Annals of Internal Medicine* (2024). [DOI: 10.7326/M24-0329](#)

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