

There is no data from well-designed studies to indicate a link between Singulair and suicide. The concern expressed by the FDA is based entirely on case reports and there is no indication that such effects apply to other leukotriene-modifying medications.

Post-marketing case reports are incomplete. Furthermore, comparative data is lacking on the incidence of suicide in the general population versus the incidence in patients taking Singulair. Thus it is unknown whether there is an increased incidence of suicide in patients receiving Singulair.

Based on the information currently available, patients taking Singulair should continue to take the medication as prescribed provided: 1) the patient and physician feel the medication is effective; and 2) the patient does not experience any suicidal behavior or thoughts.

Patients who experience suicidal thoughts or demonstrate suicidal behavior should consult their physician immediately to discuss whether to continue with this medication. Patients should not hesitate to consult their physician if they feel uncomfortable continuing on the medication.

As always, it is important to carefully monitor patients on any medication and specifically inquire about any adverse events.

Due to the complexity of the FDA analysis, the agency has stated that it could take up to nine months before it can draw any conclusions. At that point, hopefully, more information will be conveyed to the public.

Jay M. Portnoy, M.D., FACAAI

Hugh A. Sampson, M.D., FAAAAI

ACAAI President

AAAAI President