

"Severe Adverse Effects": Doctors Warn Pfizer's Paxlovid Can Interact With Common Medications

## Description

Pfizer's Covid-19 treatment that's *definitely not* a profitable Ivermectin knockoff (despite both functioning as protease inhibitors) turns out to pose an increased risk of severe illness in Covid-19 patients who have a history of cardiovascular disease.



Paxlovid – Pfizer's Covid medication notably taken by Joe Biden, Jill Biden and Dr. Anthony Fauci – before all three had "rare" (and then not-so rare) cases of "rebound Covid" – **can have dangerous interactions with some of the most common medications for cardiovascular disease**, including various statins and heart failure therapies, according to a Wednesday paper published in the Journal of

the American College of Cardiology.

In it, researchers found that the combination of nirmatrelvir and ritonavir, two antivirals which comprise Pfizer's Paxlovid, can interact with a number of commonly prescribed cardiovascular medications. According to the paper, Ritonavir, which was approved to treat HIV in 1996, impacts the CYP450 pathway that's involved in metabolizing a number of medications—as well as the P-glycoprotein drug efflux pump, the *Epoch Times* reports.

"Co-administration of [Paxlovid] with medications commonly used to manage cardiovascular conditions can potentially cause significant drug-drug interactions and may lead to <u>severe</u> <u>adverse effects</u>," reads an abstract. "It is crucial to be aware of such interactions and take appropriate measures to avoid them."

The paper also notes that interactions between Paxlovid and some blood thinners can cause a higher risk of bleeding, while **interactions between Paxlovid and cholesterol medications** such as Statins can be toxic, <u>CNN</u> reports, citing the paper.

"Awareness of the presence of drug-drug interactions of Paxlovid with common cardiovascular drugs is key. System-level interventions by integrating drug-drug interactions into electronic medical records could help avoid related adverse events," <u>said</u> lead author Saru Ganatra, MD, who works at Lahey Hospital and Medical Center in Burlington, Massachusetts.

"Paxlovid could be incorporated into an order set, which allows physicians, whether it be primary care physicians or cardiology providers, to consciously rule out any contraindications to the co-administration of Paxlovid," Ganatra continued, adding that there needs to be "consultation" with healthcare providers and pharmacists to avoid interactions.

As the *Epoch Times* notes, a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) fact sheet (<u>pdf</u>) of Paxlovid for health care providers goes into detail about possible drug interactions that can prompt life-threatening reactions.

The medications include but aren't limited to anti-seizure medications, drugs for irregular heart rhythms, drugs for high blood pressure and high cholesterol, antidepressants and anti-anxiety medications, antidepressants and anti-anxiety medications, steroids, HIV treatments, blood thinners, and erectile dysfunction medications.

"The importance of medication reconciliation before initiation of nirmatrelvir/ritonavir cannot be overemphasized to avoid serious drug-drug interactions," the authors of the paper wrote Wednesday, referring to Paxlovid.

by Tyler Durden

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