

Type 2 Diabetes Medications: Thiazolidinediones

One class of diabetes medications is the **thiazolidinediones** (THIGH-ah-ZO-li-deen-DYE-owns).

How Do Thiazolidinediones Work?

Thiazolidinediones work by increasing the body's sensitivity to insulin which helps to lower your blood glucose level.

What Are Some Generic Names For Thiazolidinediones?

Some generic names for thiazolidinediones include pioglitazone (py-oh-GLIT-uh-zone), rosiglitazone (rose-ee-GLIH-tuh-zone), and troglitazone (tro-GLIT-uh-zone).

What Are Some Brand Names For Thiazolidinediones?

Some generic names for thiazolidinediones include Avandia (uh-Van-dee-uh)[®], Actos (ACT-ose)[®], and Rezulin[®].

How Many Times A Day Should You Take Thiazolidinediones?

Your Doctor may prescribe thiazolidinediones to be taken one or twice a day at about the same time each day.

What Are Some Potential Side Effects of Thiazolidinediones?

Thiazolidinediones may cause weight gain, headache, swelling in the ankles and legs, and/or fatigue. Thiazolidinediones may make birth control pills less effective. During treatment, blood should be periodically tested to make sure the drug is not causing any liver problems. Nausea, abdominal pain, dark urine, or yellowing of the skin may indicate a serious problem and a health care provider should be contacted.

This handout contains general information on diabetes medication. It is not intended to replace medical advice. It is important to talk to your doctor or pharmacist about your dosage and any other questions that you may have.



Illinois Extension provides equal opportunity in program and employment. Trina Sprengelmeyer, BS and Karen Chapman-Novakofski RD, LD, PhD, 2004.