

Safety Alert

May 2025

Tirzepatide-potential risk of pulmonary aspiration during general anesthesia or deep sedation

EDA performs label update to include the following:

Special warnings and precautions for use

Aspiration in association with general anesthesia or deep sedation

Cases of pulmonary aspiration have been reported in patients receiving GLP-1 receptor agonists undergoing general anesthesia or deep sedation. Therefore, the increased risk of residual gastric content due to delayed gastric emptying should be considered prior to performing procedures with general anesthesia or deep sedation

Background:

Pulmonary aspiration

Pulmonary aspiration is the passive process of oropharyngeal or gastric contents entering the trachea. During sedation, the pharyngeal function is impaired, and the peak pressure in the upper esophageal sphincter is decreased. .

Therapeutic Indication:

Tirzepatide is a glucose-dependent insulintropic polypeptide (GIP) receptor and glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist indicated as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycemic control in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus

References:

MHRA ([Click here](#))