

[Glitazones]

Includes: Pioglitazone (Actos); Rosiglitazone (Avandia)



What they do:

- Make the body's cells more sensitive to insulin
- This helps the cells use the sugar better

How to take them:

- 1 or 2 times a day, as prescribed by your doctor
- It may take 2 or 3 months for this medication to lower blood sugars
- Continue taking the pills even if there is no change in blood sugars at first



What to watch for:

- Glitazones may cause the body to hold onto fluid, which will increase weight. Tell your doctor if this happens.
- Rarely, they may cause vision changes



Who should not take a glitazone:

- People with heart failure
- People taking insulin
- Women who are pregnant or planning to become pregnant

For more information contact your health care provider

Reference:

Compendium of Pharmaceutical Specialties 2009 published by the Canadian Pharmacists Association Ottawa, ON.

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