

## SFDA Safety communication

[29/JULY/2021]

### Use of SSRI/SNRI Antidepressants Increases the Risk of Postpartum Haemorrhage when Used in the Last Month before Delivery

The Saudi Food & Drug Authority (SFDA) would like to notify health care professionals about small increased risk of postpartum hemorrhage associated with use of Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs), Serotonin, and Noradrenaline Reuptake Inhibitors (SNRIs) antidepressants when used during the last month before delivery.

SSRI and SNRIs are two classes that are frequently used to treat depression. These classes are known for increasing the risk of bleeding that might be due to their serotonergic effect impairing platelet aggregation. Data from observational studies suggests that the use of SSRI/SNRI antidepressants in the last month before delivery may result in a small increased risk of postpartum hemorrhage.

#### Advice for healthcare providers:

- Untreated depression in pregnancy can have serious consequences on the maternal and neonatal health. Please consider the benefits and risks for the use of antidepressants during pregnancy.
- Healthcare providers should be carefully assessed the safety of antidepressants use during pregnancy, especially in later stages.
- Consider the patient's risk factors for bleeding or thrombotic events.

#### Call for reporting:

The SFDA urges both healthcare professionals and patients to report ADRs (Adverse Drug Reactions) related to use of any medication to the SFDA using the following contact information:

The National Pharmacovigilance Centre (NPC):

SFDA Call Center: 19999

E-mail: [npc.drug@sfd.gov.sa](mailto:npc.drug@sfd.gov.sa)

Website: <https://ade.sfd.gov.sa>