Smoking Cessation Drug May Be Associated With Increased Risk Of Cardiovascular Problems.

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Use of varenicline (brand name - Champix®, manufactured by Pfizer), a commonly used smoking cessation drug, may be associated with a higher risk of cardiovascular problems. A meta-analysis, or a review of a large number of studies in this area, found that smokers who reported using this drug more frequently reported serious heart problems, including arrhythmia and congestive heart failure.

The significance of the research have been challenged by other researchers, who say that the risks are slight and that the benefits of quitting are much greater than the risks of using the drug. Smokers considering the use of the drug should discusst the risks with their healthcare provider.

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