

Medical
BREAKTHROUGHS
Reported by Ivanhoe

Be the **First to Know**
SUBSCRIBE FREE

Search Latest Medical News
150 Reports Added/Month

GO

- What's New
- News Flash
- Discussion
- Health Channel News

- Alternative Health
- Arthritis
- Asthma & Allergies
- Breast Cancer
- Cancer
- Cardiovascular Health
- Children's Health
- Dental Health
- Diabetes
- Fertility & Pregnancy
- Men's Health
- Mental Health
- Neurological Disorders
- Nutrition & Wellness
- Orthopedics
- Seniors' Health
- Sports Medicine
- Surgery Video
- Vision
- Women's Health

Sign up here for **Medical Alerts!**

Extras

RSS PODCASTS

- Useful Links
- Play It Again, Please
- E-Mail a Friend
- Order Books Online
- Inside Science
- Smart Woman

SMART WOMAN

Click to Read the Latest Reports

- Social Smoking: A Health Faux Pas
- Fit and Fat?
- Fight Cancer at the Dinner Table

About Ivanhoe

- Awards
- About Us
- Contact Us
- Employment
- Feedback
- Ivanhoe FAQ
- Our TV Partners
- Travel Calendar

Advertisement

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Vyvanse is indicated for the treatment of ADHD. Efficacy based on two controlled trials in children aged 6 to 12 and one controlled trial in adults.

Tell the doctor about any heart conditions, including structural abnormalities, that you, your child, or a family member, may have. Inform the doctor immediately if you or your child develops symptoms that suggest heart problems, such as chest pain or fainting.

Neurological Disorders channel

Email this page to a friend
Ivanhoe.com

[Click here for a print-friendly version](#)

Reported August 20, 2009

Digg **Smoking Linked to Brain Damage in MS Patients**

(Ivanhoe Newswire) -- People with multiple sclerosis (MS) who smoked for as little as six months during their lifetime exhibited more destruction of brain tissue and more brain atrophy than MS patients who had never smoked, according to a study at the University of Buffalo.

Research showed that "ever-smokers" had more brain lesions and greater loss of brain volume, as well as higher scores on the Expanded Disability Status Scale (EDSS), than MS patients who had no history of smoking.

The EDSS score is derived from measures of various functions of the central nervous system. It has a scale from 0 to 10, with 10 representing greatest disability. Nonsmokers recorded an average EDSS score of 2.5, compared to 3.0 for ever-smokers.

"Cigarette smoking is one of the most compelling environmental risk factors linked to the development and worsening of MS," Robert Zivadinov, M.D., Ph.D., UB professor of neurology, director of the Buffalo Neuroimaging Analysis Center (BNAC) and first author on the study was quoted as saying.

"The biological basis of the potential link between smoking and MS has not yet been fully elucidated," Zivadinov continued. "In addition to nicotine, cigarette smoke contains hundreds of potentially toxic components, including tar, carbon monoxide and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. In MS patients, smoking was associated with higher increased lesion burden and greater brain atrophy. Our results indicate that a wide range of quantitative brain MRI markers are affected by smoking in MS patients."

The study involved 368 patients who were seen at the Baird Multiple Sclerosis Center of the Jacobs Neurological Institute (JNI), UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Of the 368 patients, 128 had a history of smoking. Ninety-six were active smokers who had smoked more than 10 cigarettes per day in the three months prior to the beginning of the study, and 32 were former smokers who had smoked for at least six months sometime in their lives. The remaining 240 participants were lifelong nonsmokers.

Nearly 80 percent in both groups were female, and nearly 75 percent were diagnosed with progressive MS, characterized by a steadily increasing disability.

SOURCE: *Neurology*, August 18, 2009

Want to be the FIRST TO KNOW?
[Click Here](#) for a free weekly email with Ivanhoe's latest Medical Breakthroughs.

If this story or any other Ivanhoe story has impacted your life or prompted you or someone you know to seek or change treatments, please let us know by contacting Melissa Medalie at mmedalie@ivanhoe.com

Related Articles in Latest Medical News:

MEDICAL ALERT!

Stay up to date on **Neurological Disorders**. We can notify you every time there is a medical breakthrough. [Click here](#) to sign up.

LAST WEEK'S TOP 10 MOST POPULAR

[Are Your Eating Habits Putting You At Risk for Breast Cancer?](#)

[Learning to See With Macular Degeneration](#)

[Shingles Vaccine Debate](#)

[Upper Airway Surgery Effective for Sleep Apnea](#)

[Researcher Says Dogs are as Smart as 2-year-old](#)

[Losing Sleep Wrecks Lives](#)

['Brain Exercises' May Delay Memory Decline](#)

[Allergy Drops](#)

[Catching Crooks Green-Handed](#)

[Raising Money-Smart Kids](#)

Want our Top 10 in Your Inbox? Sign Up for Our

FREE NEWSLETTER

EDITOR'S CHOICE

[Your Baby DVD](#)
What Every Pregnant Woman Should Know

[Happier Woman DVD](#)

25 ways to reduce stress

[Forever Young DVD](#)

25 ways to lose 10 years

[Feel Good Again DVD](#)

25 ways to STOP THE PAIN

Advertisement

20
Years
of medical news
reporting
reaching nearly
80 million
TV households
each week.
More
About Ivanhoe...

- * Facing Aging: The Baby Boomers -- White Paper
- * Gel for MS Memory Loss -- In-Depth Doctor's Interview
- * Multiple Sclerosis Executive Summary: Diagnosis, Drugs and Alternatives
- * Unraveling Memory's Mysteries -- White Paper
- * Smoking Increases MS Risk
- * Sex Hormones Linked to MS
- * The American Heart Association's Scientific Sessions -- Executive Summary

[[Back to Neurological Disorders Channel Home](#)]

[Marjorie Bekaert Thomas](#)
Publisher/President

[Bette BonFleur](#)
CEO Emeritus

one controlled trial in adults.

Tell the doctor about any heart conditions, including structural abnormalities, that you, your child, or a family member, may have. Inform the doctor *immediately* if you or your child develops symptoms that suggest heart problems, such as chest pain or fainting.

Vyvanse should not be taken if you or your child has advanced disease of the blood vessels (arteriosclerosis); symptomatic heart disease; moderate to severe high blood pressure; overactive thyroid gland (hyperthyroidism); known allergy or unusual reactions to drugs called sympathomimetic amines (for example, pseudoephedrine); seizures; glaucoma; a history of problems with alcohol or drugs; agitated states; taken a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) within the last 14 days.

Tell the doctor *before* taking Vyvanse if you or your child is being treated for or has symptoms of depression (sadness, worthlessness, or hopelessness) or bipolar disorder; has abnormal thought or visions, hears abnormal sounds, or has been diagnosed with psychosis; has had seizures or abnormal EEGs; has or has had high blood pressure; exhibits aggressive behavior or hostility. Tell the

[Home](#) | [What's New](#) | [News Flash](#) | [Search/Latest Medical News](#) | [E-Mail Medical Alerts!](#)
[Ivanhoe FAQ](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Our TV Partners](#) | [Awards](#) | [Useful Links](#) | [Play It Again, Please](#)
[RSS Feeds](#) | [Advertising/Sponsorships](#) | [Content Syndication](#) | [Reprints](#)

webdoctor@ivanhoe.com

Copyright © 2009 Ivanhoe Broadcast News, Inc.
2745 West Fairbanks Avenue
Winter Park, Florida 32789
(407) 740-0789

P.O. Box 865
Orlando, Florida 32802

* Denotes Premium Content in Latest Medical News



We comply with the [HONcode standard for trustworthy health information](#):
[verify here.](#)