

FDA approves world's first 3D printed pill

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It's not just organs anymore, even your pill might be printing! The US FDA has given its nod for the world's first 3D-printed pill produced by Ohio-based pharmaceutical company Aprelia. The drug, Spritam levetiracetam, is a new drug to control seizures brought on by epilepsy.

Aprelia said that through its 3D printing platform-ZipDose, it planned to develop other medications for various indications. This technology makes high-dose medications easier to swallow.

The company further said in a statement that 3D printing allows a high drug load - up to 1,000 mg - to be delivered in a single dose. The 3-D printing process creates a pill that has "a porous formulation that rapidly disintegrates with a sip of liquid."

Doctors are already using customized, 3-D printing to create implants for patients with injuries and are exploring a wide range of other applications, such as printing human tissue and even whole organs.