



# VITALS

A Weekly Safety Newsletter For Medical Transport Professionals

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## Worldwide Recall of HeartStart FR2+ Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)



On September 28, 2009 Philips announced it voluntarily recalled about 5,400 FR2+ AEDs. There is the possibility of a memory chip failure that may make the device inoperable. HeartStart FR2+ AEDs models M3860A and M3861A distributed by Philips are included. Models M3840A and M3841A distributed by Laerdal Medical are also included. The devices involved were manufactured between May, 2007 and January, 2008.

The memory chip failures were reported during routine self tests and not during actual emergency operation. The defect could prevent the devices from delivering potentially life-saving therapy.

Customers may contact HeartStart Customer Service at 1-800-263-3342. Philips has established a web page [www.philips.com/FR2PlusAction](http://www.philips.com/FR2PlusAction). At this site there is a serial number look-up tool that allows customers to determine if their FR2+ is subject to the recall.

## FDA Warning

There is new safety information from the FDA about products that are marketed for increasing muscle mass. American Cellular Laboratories, Inc. claims that its products contain steroid-like ingredients. In fact, they contain synthetic steroids. The products in question include: "TREN-Xtreme", "MASS Xtreme", "ESTRO Xtreme", "AH-89-Xtreme", "HMG Xtreme", "MMA-3 Xtreme", "VNS-9 Xtreme", and "TT-40-Xtreme." Since these products contain synthetic steroids, they cannot be considered as dietary supplements. They are unapproved drugs.

Adverse effects involving men from 22-55 have been reported. Serious liver injury, stroke, kidney failure and other hormone associated adverse effects, such as blood clots, which may cause deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism have occurred. The FDA recommends that people should stop using any body building products that claim to contain steroids or steroid like substances. Signs and symptoms include nausea, weakness or fatigue, fever, abdominal pain, chest pain, shortness of breath, jaundice and brown or discolored urine.



## Tamiflu Dosage Warning

The FDA has issued a warning about dosing issues with Tamiflu (oseltamivir) oral suspension. American health care providers usually write prescriptions for liquid medications in milliliters (ml) or teaspoons. Tamiflu is dosed in milligrams (mg). The dosing dispenser packaged with Tamiflu had marking only in 30, 45 and 60 milligrams. Make sure that the dispensing device used with Tamiflu has the same units of measure that the doctor ordered.