



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD

PUBLIC ALERT

**SUBSTANDARD ASTRAL 100 AND 150, SERIAL NUMBERS 22241890149
AND 22241978070 VENTILATORS**

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board ("the Board") is the National Medicines Regulatory Authority of Kenya, established under Section 3 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap 244 of the Laws of Kenya. The Board is mandated to protect and promote public health by regulating the pharmacy profession and ensuring access to quality, safe, and effective health products and technologies ("HPTs")

In furtherance of this mandate, the Board undertakes post-marketing surveillance activities to monitor HPTs circulating in the market and to take appropriate regulatory actions in safeguarding public health

The Board received an alert from the Australian Government, Department of Health and Ageing, regarding substandard Astral 100 and Astral 150 serial numbers 22241890149 and 22241978070, ventilators. The alert indicated that an internal electrical component (supercapacitor) in a subset of the affected ventilators could leak electrolyte over time. It was reported that the electrolyte leakage could damage the circuitry on the printed circuit board assembly (PCBA), causing the ventilator to inadvertently enter a fail state.

RISKS

If the above defect occurred while therapy was being delivered, the therapy would stop, and a high-priority audible alarm would be activated. Consequently, the ventilator would be unable to deliver therapy, necessitating the use of an alternative means of ventilation.

PUBLIC ADVISORY

In light of the above, the Board advises as follows:

1. Procurement agencies, hospitals, distributors, pharmacists, pharmaceutical technologists, and members of the public are urged **to remain vigilant and report immediately any encounter with the substandard product.**

2. All stakeholders within the supply chain are to procure HPTs exclusively from licensed manufacturers, importers, distributors, and retailers. Procuring from unlicensed sources endangers patients and constitutes a violation of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap 244 of the Laws of Kenya.

The Board, together with relevant Government investigative agencies, will take firm regulatory and legal action against any individual or entity involved in the distribution of this and any other substandard batches of HPTs.

HOW TO REPORT

Any suspected falsified or substandard medicine should be reported through the following official channels:

- Online portal: <https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/users/mpublic>
- USSD Code: *271#
- Mobile App: mPvERS (Android & iOS)
- Email: pv@ppb.go.ke | pms@ppb.go.ke
- Telephone: 0795743049

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board remains committed to protecting and safeguarding public health. Your cooperation is essential in ensuring the quality, safety, and efficacy of Health Products and Technologies in Kenya.



Dr. Ahmed I. Mohamed

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

17th July 2026