

# Safety Notice

## Medical Devices

### Lifepak 500 Automated External Defibrillator

**Priority 2 – Warning**



HPRA Safety Notice: SN2020(09)

Issue Date: 10 August 2020

MANUFACTURER / SUPPLIER	HPRA CASE REFERENCE
Stryker Medical	V44148

#### ISSUE

Stryker has identified a component wear out issue for the LIFEPAK 500 AED. In high-use environments the device may not detect a patient connection due to mechanical wear-through of the contact plating on the therapy connector. The issue has been communicated in the attached field safety notice (FSN). There have been no reported incidents relating to this issue in Ireland.

The HPRA is issuing this notice to raise awareness as the LIFEPAK 500 AED has been discontinued by Stryker and the manufacturer is unable to resolve this issue, therefore **any devices remaining in service should be retired as soon as practically possible.**

#### ACTION OR RECOMMENDATIONS

The HPRA advises that users:

- 1 Read the accompanying FSN carefully.
- 2 Follow the instructions in the FSN to identify whether you have affected devices in use at your facility.

- 3 If during use you experience the issue described in the FSN, remove and reinstall the electrodes to the device or replace the electrodes and check the patient connection. If the issue with patient detection continues, immediately obtain a backup device and remove the affected device from use.
- 4 If during maintenance testing you identify affected devices that exhibit the issue described in the FSN, remove the devices from use immediately.
- 5 Acknowledge receipt of the FSN if you have not already done so.
- 6 Forward a copy of this Safety Notice and the FSN to all relevant personnel within your organisation or to any other organisations/persons to which/whom these devices have been transferred.
- 7 Report any adverse events/incidents associated with these devices to the manufacturer and the HPRRA.

TARGET GROUPS	
Ambulance Services Clinics General practitioners Hospitals Medical Directors Emergency Departments Nursing Homes Paramedics/Advanced Paramedics Dental Clinics	Risk managers Supplies managers Health and safety managers Volunteer Ambulance Services First Aid Organisations Sports Centres Schools Gyms Retailers Work Places/Employers

BACKGROUND	
<p>Stryker issued a FSN to advise users of the following issues relating to the LIFEPAK 500 AED:</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1</li> </ol>	<p>Mechanical wear-through of the contact plating on the therapy connector of LIFEPAK 500 AEDs in high-use environments such as emergency services may cause an oxide layer to form on exposed base metal of the connector resulting in the device not recognising when a patient is connected. In such situations, the device provides the user with the "CONNECT ELECTRODES" message.</p> <p>Stryker received five incident reports from one facility in the US, where the device failed to initially recognise a patient connection, which resulted in a delay to treatment.</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2</li> </ol>	<p>Stryker is unable to service LIFEPAK 500 devices to resolve this issue, therefore any devices remaining in service should be retired as soon as practically possible, consistent with the needs of patients.</p>

Stryker previously sent a product discontinuation notice to customers regarding the LIFEPAK 500 AED in February 2020. Supply of parts, accessories and disposables for the LIFEPAK 500 AED ended in June 2020.

The HPRA is issuing this Safety Notice to raise awareness of this issue. Please see the accompanying manufacturer's FSN for further information.

#### MANUFACTURER CONTACT INFORMATION

Enquiries to the **manufacturer** should be addressed to:

Stryker UK,  
Stryker House,  
Hambridge Road,  
Newbury,  
Berkshire,  
RG14 5AW,  
UK.

Telephone: +44 1635 262400  
+44 7929 021221

E-mail:  
[raga.uk@stryker.com](mailto:raga.uk@stryker.com)  
[sharunyan.thavarajan@stryker.com](mailto:sharunyan.thavarajan@stryker.com)

Website: [www.stryker.com](http://www.stryker.com)

#### HPRA CONTACT INFORMATION

All **adverse incidents** relating to a medical device should be reported to:

Health Products Regulatory Authority  
Kevin O'Malley House  
Earlsfort Centre  
Earlsfort Terrace  
Dublin 2

Telephone: +353-1-6764971  
E-mail: [devicesafety@hpra.ie](mailto:devicesafety@hpra.ie)  
Website: [www.hpra.ie](http://www.hpra.ie)