

Supplement Alert Advisory



A public health alert has been issued in New Zealand following reports of a possible hepatitis illness linked to a sports supplement: OxyElite Pro or VERSA -1. This follows the USA Food & Drug administration (FDA) and CDC investigating a number of rapid onset (acute) cases which included several hospitalisations (including two liver transplants) and one death in Hawaii where the supplement appears to be the common link.

According to the FDA report, found on its website (see link below) the product contains an ingredient, aegeline, for which the manufacturer has not provided adequate evidence of safety. The supplement is designated adulterated as it contains a new dietary ingredient (*an ingredient not previously present in the food supply, and for which there is no history of use or other evidence of safety when used as suggested in the labelling*) which lacks adequate information to provide reasonable assurance of safety.

Specifically, USP Labs failed to provide the FDA with evidence, as required by law, that aegeline, also referred to as N-[2-hydroxy-2(4-methoxyphenyl) ethyl]-3-phenyl-2-propenamide, was safe for use in its dietary supplements.

Athletes are being asked to check they are **not** using this supplement and if using to **discontinue immediately**. Please advise your Team Medical Director and Performance Nutritionist if using this product. These products are available via websites in New Zealand and may possibly be available on the shelf in selected retailers. It is currently not known if the supplements bearing this label in New Zealand are the same formulation, produced in the same factory or the same batch as the product available in the USA which are of concern. USPlabs from the USA (Texas) produces OxyElite Pro and VERSA-1 is the same company that manufactures Jack 3D (a supplement found to have contained ingredients which could lead to an athlete producing an adverse finding).

For more information please contact your Team Medical Director and HPSNZ or Team Performance Nutritionist.

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FDA Website link: <http://www.fda.gov/food/recallsoutbreaksemergencies/outbreaks/ucm370849.htm>