Important Drug Recall Notice

TO ALL PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES

Circular Letter MC25-023-CG
October 29, 2025

More than 140,000 bottles of a widely prescribed cholesterol-lowering medication are being recalled nationwide. Federal regulators said the pills failed to meet dissolution standards—potentially making them less effective than intended. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced that multiple lots of generic atorvastatin calcium tablets—a drug commonly used to treat high cholesterol and prevent heart disease—were voluntarily recalled by Ascend Laboratories LLC of Bedminster, New Jersey.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Consumers should contact their physician or healthcare provider if they have experienced any problems that may be related to taking or using this drug product.
2. Review your inventory to identify existence of recalled products.
3. Expect patients to visit your pharmacy to deliver recalled products and prepare your pharmacy staff on how to handle the situation.

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FDA U.S. FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION

More Than 140,000 Bottles of Cholesterol Medication Recalled Nationwide

The nationwide recall covers atorvastatin calcium tablets in 10-, 20-, 40-, and 80-milligram doses.

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The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced that multiple lots of generic atorvastatin calcium tablets—a drug commonly used to treat high cholesterol and prevent heart disease—were voluntarily recalled by Ascend Laboratories LLC of Bedminster, New Jersey.

The tablets were manufactured by Alkem Laboratories Ltd. in India, according to an FDA recall notice dated Oct. 10.

The FDA classified the action as a Class II recall, meaning "a violative product may cause temporary or medically reversible adverse health consequences or where the probability of serious adverse health consequences is remote."

According to the FDA, several batches of the drug "failed dissolution specifications." This means that the tablets did not dissolve at the expected rate under federal guidelines. Improper dissolution could prevent patients from properly absorbing the active ingredient and reduce the drug's effectiveness.

The nationwide recall covers atorvastatin calcium tablets in 10-, 20-, 40-, and 80-milligram doses. According to FDA data, 10-milligram tablets were packaged in 90-, 500-, and 1,000-count bottles—amounting to 141,984 bottles included in the recall. Larger-count bottles of the higher-dose tablets were also affected.

The agency said the recall was initiated Sept. 19 and remains ongoing.

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) advises that consumers notified of a prescription drug recall should contact their doctor or pharmacist before making any changes. Atorvastatin is part of the statin drug class, which works by reducing cholesterol production in the liver. It ranks among the most commonly prescribed medications in the United States.

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The recall covers multiple lots with expiration dates ranging from July 2026 to February 2027, the FDA said. Affected lot numbers include 25141249, 24144938, 24144868, 24144458, 24143994, 24142987, and 24143316, among others. Each lot number recalled can be found on the FDA's recall notice. The recall event ID number is 97639.

Identifying the Recalled Medication

See the entire list of recalled medications below, including dosages, bottle sizes, and expiration dates:

Product Description	Bottle Size	Lot Numbers	Expiration Dates
Atorvastatin Calcium Tablets USP, 10 mg	90-count, 500-count, and 1000-count bottles	25141249, 24144938, 24144868, 24144867, 24144458, 24143994, 24142987, 24143316	Feb. 2027, Nov. 2026, Sep. 2026, July 2026
Atorvastatin Calcium Tablets USP, 40 mg	90-count, 500-count, and 1000-count bottles	25140933, 25140477, 24144254, 24144163, 24143995	Feb. 2027, Dec. 2026, Oct. 2026, Sep. 2026
Atorvastatin Calcium Tablets USP, 20 mg	90-count, 500-count, and 1000-count bottles	25140150, 25140173, 25140172, 24144720, 24144798, 24144692, 24143755, 24143913, 24143754, 24143047, 24142936	Dec. 2026, Nov. 2026, Oct. 2026, Aug. 2026, June 2026, July 2026
Atorvastatin Calcium Tablets USP, 80 mg	90-count and 500-count bottles	25140249, 25140247, 24144999, 24144942, 24144845, 24144713, 24144652, 24143898, 24143412, 24143582	Dec. 2026, Nov. 2026, Oct. 2026, Aug. 2026

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