

Statement by Hospital Authority on recent surgical light incident

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for the Hospital Authority (HA) made the following statement regarding the recent surgical light incident:

According to the record of the HA, the manufacturer and maintenance vendor involved did not report to the HA that a missing screw incident of one of the surgical lights had been reported to the United States Food and Drug Administration.

The HA reiterates the safety of patients and staff is its prime concern. It regrets that the vendor did not report the related incident of the product or disclose the potential risk to the HA, which exposed healthcare workers and patients to the risks.

Preliminary information shows that the HA has purchased one surgical light of the same model as that in the above-mentioned incident, which was confirmed to be safe after inspection and can continue to be used. This model of surgical light is not used in United Christian Hospital.

After the incident of falling surgical light on Saturday (February 18), the HA has urged and followed up closely with the vendor concerned, and commissioned an independent engineering expert on incident analysis, Dr Eric Lim, to investigate and to understand the cause of the incident.

The HA will continue to follow up the incident seriously, and has ordered the vendor to continue to inspect the surgical lights in public hospitals and submit a report on the incident, and to make appropriate and effective follow-up to prevent similar incidents from happening again. The HA reserves rights to pursue relevant responsibilities against the vendor.