



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
PRESS RELEASE
9 NOVEMBER 2020

FOURTEEN ONLINE PEDDLERS CONVICTED FOR ILLEGAL SALE OF ELECTRONIC VAPORISERS, TOTAL FINES AMOUNT TO MORE THAN \$250,000

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) has prosecuted 14 peddlers for selling electronic vaporisers¹ (e-vaporisers) and related accessories in Singapore. They were convicted in Court between June and August 2020, with the total fines amounting to \$255,500.

2 The peddlers were aged between 20 and 43. They had purchased the e-vaporisers and related accessories from overseas suppliers and sold them illegally on various local social media and e-commerce platforms.

3 These cases were detected through HSA's cyber-surveillance and enforcement activities, which are targeted at deterring the illegal import and sale of e-vaporisers and related accessories in Singapore. More than \$50,000 worth of e-vaporisers and related accessories were seized from the peddlers.

4 The youngest offender, aged 20, was sentenced to a 15-month supervised probation, while the rest were fined between \$5,500 - \$47,500 (please refer to Annex A for more details on the probation and fines). From 2018 to date, HSA has prosecuted 35 persons for selling e-vaporisers and related accessories. The stiffest penalty meted out so far was \$99,000 in 2019 for the illegal sale of e-vaporisers and related accessories. HSA will take strong enforcement actions against those convicted of selling e-vaporisers and related accessories.

Electronic vaporisers are strictly prohibited in Singapore

5 HSA would like to remind the public that it is an offence under the Tobacco (Control of Advertisements and Sale) Act to sell, offer for sale, possess for sale, import or distribute e-vaporisers.

6 Any person who is convicted is liable to a fine not exceeding \$10,000, or to an imprisonment term for up to 6 months or to both for the first offence, and to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or to imprisonment for up to 12 months or to both for the second or subsequent offence.

¹ Electronic vaporisers refer to battery-operated devices which deliver vaporised nicotine for users to inhale. They come in forms such as e-cigarettes, e-pipes, e-cigars and the like.

7 In addition, since 1 February 2018, it is also an offence to possess, purchase or use e-vaporisers and related accessories. The penalty is a fine not exceeding \$2,000.

8 Information pertaining to the prohibition of e-vaporisers in Singapore is available on HSA's [website](#).

9 The public is strongly advised not to import, purchase, supply and use prohibited tobacco products in Singapore. Members of the public who have information on the illegal import, distribution, sale or offer for sale of prohibited tobacco products can submit a report conveniently using the online form at go.gov.sg/reporttobaccooffences. Alternatively, they can contact HSA's Tobacco Regulation Branch at Tel: 6684 2036 or 6684 2037 during office hours (9:00am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday).

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About the Health Sciences Authority (HSA)

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) applies medical, pharmaceutical and scientific expertise through its three professional groups, Health Products Regulation, Blood Services and Applied Sciences, to protect and advance national health and safety. HSA is a multidisciplinary authority. It serves as the national regulator for health products, ensuring they are wisely regulated to meet standards of safety, quality and efficacy. As the national blood service, it is responsible for providing a safe and adequate blood supply. It also applies specialised scientific, forensic, investigative and analytical capabilities in serving the administration of justice. For more details, visit <http://www.hsa.gov.sg/>.

For more updates on public health and safety matters, follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/HSAsg.

About HSA's Health Products Regulation Group

The Health Products Regulation Group (HPRG) of HSA ensures that drugs, innovative therapeutics, medical devices and health-related products are wisely regulated and meet appropriate safety, quality and efficacy standards. It contributes to the development of biomedical sciences in Singapore by administering a robust, scientific and responsive regulatory framework.

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Table 1 – Case Details of Electronic Vaporiser Peddlers Prosecuted

S/N	Name of peddler	Date of conviction	Court actions against peddler
1	Ang Zhenming, Benjamin (Hong Zhengming)	4 June 2020	Fine of \$12,500
2	Elaneethan Rajasingham	18 June 2020	Fine of \$8,500
3	Mohamed Izwan Syazani Bin Mohamed Reza Shah	18 June 2020	Fine of \$11,000
4	Lim Wei Zhang Douglas	25 June 2020	Fine of \$20,000
5	Muhammad Firdaus Bin Rahmat	25 June 2020	Fine of \$20,500
6	Ng Kian Seng (Huang Jiancheng)	16 July 2020	Fine of \$5,500

7	Muhammad Zaki Bin Baharin	16 July 2020	Fine of \$19,000
8	Max Sim Jia Liang	16 July 2020	Fine of \$45,000
9	Chin Wei Siong (Chen Weisong)	23 July 2020	Fine of \$47,500
10	Muhammad Raymizat Bin Rohaizat	6 Aug 2020	<p>15 months' supervised probation with the following conditions:</p> <p>To remain indoors from 10:00PM till 6:00AM unless otherwise varied by the Probation Services Branch, in accordance with the guidelines approved by the Court.</p> <p>To perform 60 hours of community service.</p> <p>Bond in the sum of \$5,000 to ensure defendant's good behaviour during the period of probation to be executed by wife</p>

11	Hong Wen Sze, Michelle	6 Aug 2020	Fine of \$17,500
12	Sean Low Chee Peng	6 Aug 2020	Fine of \$13,500
13	Dhurkesh s/o Rajagopal	6 Aug 2020	Fine of \$7,000
14	Louis Ang Cheow Tiong (Hong Zhaozhong)	20 Aug 2020	Fine of \$28,000

Photos of e-vaporisers and accessories seized from the peddlers



