

HSA CHARGES MAN FOR ALLEGED TRAFFICKING OF ETOMIDATE E-VAPORISER PODS

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) has charged a 36-year-old man, Heng Yong Qin, in court on 2 October 2025 for the alleged trafficking of etomidate evaporiser pods.

- The man was arrested by the Police after being involved in a traffic accident outside Khatib Polyclinic in Yishun, which left two pedestrians injured on 30 September 2025. HSA seized one e-vaporiser and 33 pods that were recovered from his car. The seized pods have been tested to be positive for etomidate.
- 3 The case was adjourned to 29 October 2025 and HSA's investigations are ongoing. The accused is also investigated by the Police for driving under the influence of intoxicating substances.
- 4 HSA takes a serious view of e-vaporiser and etomidate trafficking offences. Importers, sellers and distributors of etomidate e-vaporisers now face stiffer penalties. This includes 3 to 20 years' imprisonment and 5 to 15 strokes of the cane for importers, and 2 to 10 years' imprisonment and 2 to 5 strokes of the cane for sellers and distributors.

HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY SINGAPORE 2 OCTOBER 2025

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 social media: <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>X</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.

About HSA's Health Products Regulation Group

The Health Products Regulation Group (HPRG) of HSA ensures that medicines, 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.

<u>Annex</u>

E-vaporiser and pods seized



Photo credit: Health Sciences Authority