



本署檔號 OUR REF: L/M(769) to DH/MDCO/20-10/8

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Dear Doctor,

FDA Issued Safety Communication on Preventing Surgical Fires

Your attention is drawn to a notice issued by U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regarding the Prevention of surgical fires. The FDA is advising health care professionals and health care facility executives and staff on factors that increase the risk of surgical fires, particularly the delivery of supplemental oxygen to patients.

Surgical fires can occur at any time all three elements of the fire triangle are present:

- Ignition source (e.g., ESUs, lasers, and fiber optic light sources)
- Fuel source (e.g., surgical drapes, alcohol-based skin preparation agents, the patient)
- Oxidizer (e.g., oxygen, nitrous oxide, room air)

In order to minimise the risk of surgical fire, FDA recommends the following:

1. Conduct a fire risk assessment at the beginning of each procedure.
2. Use supplemental oxygen safely.
3. Use alcohol-based (flammable) skin preparation agents safely.
4. Use devices and other surgical equipment safely.
5. Encourage communication among members of the surgical team.
6. Plan how to manage a surgical fire.

For more details about the notice, please refer to the following links:

<http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/Safety/AlertsandNotices/ucm275189.htm>

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr Addi Chan)
for Director of Health