

Potential device issues with GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (infant warmers)



N SAFETY NOTICE 008/26

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| Issue date: | 24 March 2026 |
| Content reviewed by: | CEC Maternity, Neonatal and Paediatric Safety Programs, Ministry of Health Patient Safety First Unit, Ministry of Health Senior Clinical Advisors – Neonatology and Obstetrics, Chief Paediatrician and relevant clinical experts |
| Distributed to: | Chief Executives, Directors of Clinical Governance, Director, Regulation and Compliance Unit |
| KEY MESSAGE: | GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (infant warmers) may deliver inaccurate oxygen due to faulty blender knobs. All devices must be checked, and faulty units quarantined immediately and removed from clinical areas to prevent potential neonatal harm. |
| ACTION REQUIRED BY: | Chief Executives and Directors of Clinical Governance |
| REQUIRED ACTION: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distribute this Safety Notice to all staff/departments where these devices are used. 2. If not already completed, all GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (infant warmers) must be checked and quarantined if they fail oxygen blender accuracy checks or are deemed to have an oxygen blender knob of unacceptable quality (for example, spinning without resistance) by no later than COB Thursday 26 March 2026. Updates are to be provided to CEC-Recalls@health.nsw.gov.au. 3. Ensure that local processes are in place for regular ongoing checks of GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (infant warmers) by clinical staff, as well as compliance with required maintenance schedules. 4. Include this Safety Notice where relevant including clinical handovers, safety huddles, morbidity and mortality (M&M) and other clinical meetings. 5. Report any adverse outcome associated with GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (infant warmers) via the local incident management system, for example ims+. |
| We recommend you also inform: | <p>Directors of Medical Services Directors of Nursing and Midwifery Director, Managers and Staff of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomedical and Clinical Engineering • Maternity Services/Birthing Suites • Neonatal Units • Paediatric Wards • Emergency Departments • Operating Theatres and Post Anaesthesia Care Units <p>Any other relevant staff, departments and committees.</p> |
| Website: | https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/sabs/Pages/default.aspx http://internal.health.nsw.gov.au/quality/sabs/index.html |
| Review date: | 26 March 2027 |

Made obsolete April 2026 - Replaced by SN:009/26

N SN:008/26

Situation

A device issue related to GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (infant warmers) has been identified. The issue may affect the accurate delivery of oxygen from these devices, which has the potential to contribute to patient harm.

Background

GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (also known as infant warmers, 'Pandas' or 'Giraffes' with integrated resuscitation systems) are used in a variety of settings during neonatal resuscitation. Settings where they are used include (but are not limited to); maternity services, neonatal units, mother and baby mental health inpatient units, paediatric wards, operating theatres and emergency departments.

Assessment

This issue specifically relates to the oxygen blender knob shafts (see **Figure 1 and 2 below**) on the GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds. These knobs control the oxygen concentration being delivered, which is an essential functionality that is required to effectively resuscitate a patient.



Figure 1. Image of a GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (infant warmer) showing the potentially impacted oxygen blender knob

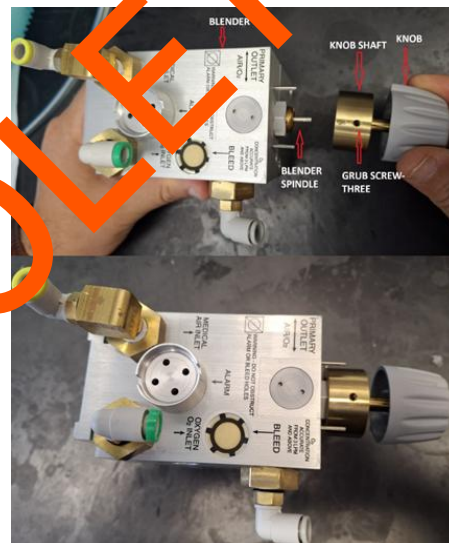


Figure 2. Closer view of the oxygen blender knob of a GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (infant warmer).

If these knob shafts are loose this may affect the ability for oxygen to be delivered, and accuracy of the concentration.

As a precautionary measure, all LHDs and SHNs which currently use GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (infant warmers) have already been requested to perform checks on all available devices. These checks included assessment of oxygen blender knob condition and undertaking oxygen blender accuracy checks (with an independent oxygen analyser as outlined in the respective Service Manual). These checks were to be undertaken by clinical staff in collaboration with the Biomedical Engineering department.

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Recommendations

- All LHDs/SHNs are to ensure a comprehensive review of GE Healthcare resuscitaire bed (infant warmers) locations across each facility is undertaken, to ensure all devices are checked.
- Continue to quarantine any GE Healthcare resuscitaire bed (infant warmers) that fail oxygen blender accuracy checks or are deemed to have an oxygen blender knob of unacceptable quality (for example, those spinning without resistance).
 - Ensure the impacted devices are clearly marked as **'NOT FOR USE'** and removed from clinical areas.
 - Log a service/maintenance request with GE Healthcare via 1800 659 465 (ensure a Purchase Order has been prepared to expedite service) and inform your local GE Healthcare Service Representative. **Requests related to these devices are being treated as a priority.**
 - Any delays in response from GE Healthcare should be escalated to the CEC via email.
- Ensure that any GE Healthcare resuscitaire bed (infant warmers) that have been decommissioned and/or are being used for training purposes are clearly marked as **'NOT FOR CLINICAL USE'**.
- In accordance with the CEC's Neonatal Resuscitation Equipment Checklist, staff are reminded that routine safety checks of resuscitaire beds (infant warmers) are required:
 - at the commencement of each shift
 - prior to each birth
 - prior to device leaving the unit for any procedure / investigation
 - following a resuscitation event.
- When used in clinical environments outside of maternity services routine safety checks are also required:
 - prior to each admission
 - at the commencement of each shift
 - prior to device leaving the unit for any procedure / investigation
 - following a resuscitation event.
- When checking the GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (infant warmers) specifically, clinicians are encouraged to carefully check the oxygen blender knob's range of motion with stop points between 0.21 and 1.00 FiO₂.
- Ensure processes are in place to determine compliance with required equipment safety checks (for example, periodic auditing).
- Ensure that service maintenance schedules are followed per equipment service manual for these devices.
 - Note the schedules provided in the manual are **minimum** frequencies, and maintenance may need to be completed more often based on device usage patterns and results of routine safety checks undertaken during day-to-day use.
- Any incidents or near misses related to the use or functioning of these GE Healthcare resuscitaire beds (infant warmers) are to be reported in ims+ and escalated to the LHD/SHN Clinical Governance Unit.
 - Comprehensive information including device serial number, location, issue observed and actions taken should be included in these reports.

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