NSW Health

UPDATED: Giraffe and Panda warmer with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation System

SAFETY NOTICE 009/26

Issue date:	1 April 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 Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems 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:	1. Distribute this Safety Notice to all staff/departments where these devices are used. 2. If not already completed, all GE Healthcare Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems 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 Tuesday 7 April 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 Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems 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 outcomes associated with GE Healthcare Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems via the local incident management system, for example ims+.
We recommend you also inform:	Directors of Medical Services Directors of Nursing and Midwifery Directors, Managers and Staff of: • Biomedical and Clinical Engineering • Maternity Services/Birthing Suites • Neonatal Units • Paediatric Wards • Emergency Departments • Operating Theatres and Post Anaesthesia Care Units Any other relevant staff, departments and committees.
Website:	https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/sabs/Pages/default.aspx http://internal.health.nsw.gov.au/quality/sabs/index.html
Review date:	1 April 2027

Contact: Clinical Excellence Commission
02 9269 5500
cec-recalls@health.nsw.gov.au

What is updated in this safety Broadcast from SN 008/26?

This Safety Notice replaces SN:008/26 which has now been **rescinded**. The nomenclature surrounding the affected devices has been updated to align with wording used in the TGA Critical Product Alert RC-2026-RN-00236-1 released on 31 March 2026.

The TGA Critical Product Alert includes Giraffe stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems, as these devices also contain the same oxygen blender as the Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes). The Safety Notice has been updated to reflect this. These Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems 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 Tuesday 7 April 2026**. Updates are to be provided to CEC-Recalls@health.nsw.gov.au.

Situation

A device issue related to GE Healthcare Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems 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 Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems are used in a variety of settings including 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 Figures 1 -3 below) on the GE Healthcare Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems. These knobs control the oxygen concentration being delivered, which is an essential functionality that is required to effectively resuscitate a patient.

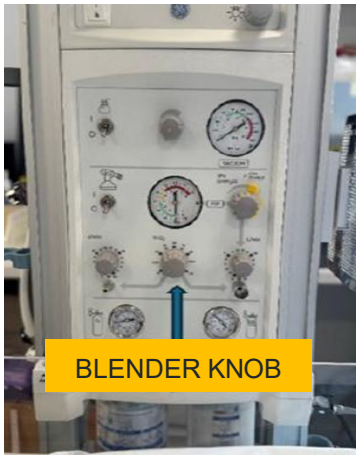

Figure 1. Image of a GE Healthcare Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes)) showing the potentially impacted oxygen blender knob

Figure 2. Image of a *GE Healthcare Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation System* showing the potentially impacted oxygen blender knob

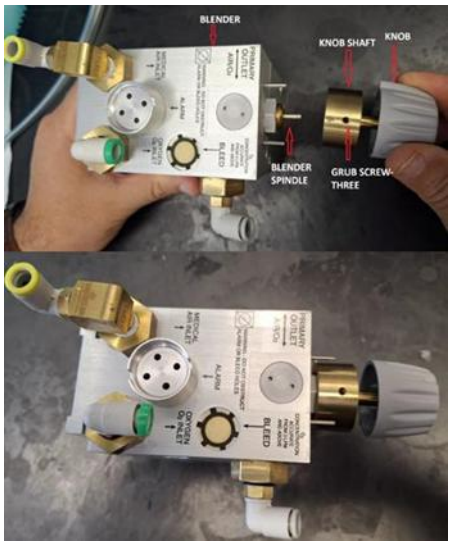

Figure 3. Closer view of the oxygen blender knob of a *GE Healthcare Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation System*

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

As a precautionary measure, all LHDs and SHNs which currently use GE Healthcare Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems 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.

Recommendations

- All LHDs/SHNs are to ensure a comprehensive review of GE Healthcare Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems locations across each facility is undertaken, to ensure all devices are checked.
- Continue to quarantine any GE Healthcare Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems 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 Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems 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 Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems 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 Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems 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 Giraffe and Panda warmers with Integrated Resuscitation System (iRes) and Giraffe Stand-alone Infant Resuscitation Systems 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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