Three hospitals ban charging of PMDs, except in specified areas

The Straits Times

Three hospitals in Singapore have banned charging of personal mobility devices (PMDs) in order to maintain the temperate environment in the patient rooms. The three hospitals are Tan Tock Seng Hospital, National University Hospital, and Ng Teng Fong General Hospital. The ban is part of a broader effort to boost safety and security in hospitals.

The move comes after a series of PMD-linked fires in the city, prompting the Land Transport Authority (LTA) to review its deadline for the sale of such devices. The LTA has been reviewing whether to bring forward its end-2020 deadline for the sale of PMDs, following a recent increase in the number of fires involving PMDs.

The ban will apply to charging personal mobility devices (PMDs) and motorised wheelchairs (PMAs) in order to maintain the temperate environment in the patient rooms. The ban will be monitored by CCTV and is not allowed anywhere on hospital property. The restriction, which went into effect on July 1, was implemented after a fire broke out at Tan Tock Seng Hospital on June 19, causing significant damage to the patient rooms.

In a statement, the hospitals said the ban is necessary to ensure that the temperate environment in the patient rooms is maintained, which is crucial for the care of patients. They added that the ban will also help to reduce the risk of fires and other safety incidents.

The ban applies to all PMDs, including electric scooters, kick scooters, and self-balancing scooters. The hospitals have also reminded patients, visitors, and staff not to bring any PMDs into the patient rooms.

The ban is part of a broader effort to boost safety and security in hospitals, following a series of PMD-linked fires in the city. The LTA has been reviewing whether to bring forward its end-2020 deadline for the sale of PMDs, following a recent increase in the number of fires involving PMDs.

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