



THREE PERSONS CHARGED FOR ALLEGED TRAFFICKING OF ETOMIDATE E-VAPORISER PODS

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) has charged three persons, Vernette Heng Cui Teng, Amir Shah s/o Anwar Shah and a 17-year-old female in court on 4 October 2025 for the alleged trafficking of etomidate e-vaporiser pods.

2 Following HSA's investigation on a suspected male etomidate abuser on 2 October 2025, HSA officers tracked down two of his alleged suppliers - 23-year-old female Vernette Heng Cui Teng and the 17-year-old female. 64 and 16 e-vaporisers and related components suspected to contain etomidate were seized from Vernette Heng Cui Teng's and the 17-year-old female's residences respectively.

3 Further investigations led HSA officers to 27-year-old male, Amir Shah s/o Anwar Shah, for allegedly supplying etomidate pods to the 17-year-old female and another female etomidate abuser via Telegram. Four e-vaporisers and related components suspected to contain etomidate were seized from his residence.

4 The seized pods are being tested for etomidate and investigations are ongoing.

5 The two etomidate abusers were fined on the spot and will be required to attend rehabilitation if their e-vaporisers contained etomidate.

6 The case for the 17-year-old female was adjourned to 13 October 2025 and the cases for Vernette Heng Cui Teng and Amir Shah s/o Anwar Shah were adjourned to 24 October 2025.

7 HSA takes a serious view of such offences. Importers, sellers and distributors of etomidate e-vaporisers will also face much stiffer penalties. This includes 3 to 20 years' imprisonment and 5 to 15 strokes of the cane for imports, and 2 to 10 years' imprisonment and 2 to 5 strokes of the cane for sellers and distributors.

**HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
SINGAPORE
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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>.

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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.