

Our Ref: NIRCD/Advisory/2023/0001

26 October 2023

To: HEALTHCARE SERVICES ACT (HCSA) AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CLINICS ACT (PHMCA)  
LICENSEES

Dear Sir/Mdm

**ADVISORY FOR HIGH INTENSITY FOCUSED ULTRASOUND APPARATUS UNDER THE RADIATION PROTECTION ACT 2007**

It has come to the National Environment Agency (NEA)'s attention that there are some healthcare institutions who do not have a valid licence from NEA for the possession of High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) apparatus.

2 In Singapore, HIFU apparatus is controlled under the Radiation Protection Act 2007 and the licences listed below are required:

- N1 licence: Licence to manufacture or deal with
- N2 licence: Licence to keep, or possess, for use
- N4A licence: Licence to import
- N4B licence: Licence to export

3 Any person who imports, exports, keeps, possesses, uses, manufactures or otherwise produces, or sells, deals with, or otherwise deals in any irradiating apparatus without a licence can be charged in court and be liable on conviction to a fine up to \$100,000 or to imprisonment for a term up to 5 years or to both. Any person who fails to give notice of the sale/purchase of any irradiating apparatus to the Director-General or disposes of any irradiating apparatus without approval from the Director-General of Environmental Protection can be charged in court and be liable on conviction to a fine up to \$50,000 or to imprisonment for a term up to 12 months or to both.

4 The possible adverse health effects of HIFU on the human body include pain during and after treatment, erythema, edema, bruising and skin burns.

5 Please note that HCSA and PHMCA licensees found in possession of HIFU apparatus without a valid NEA licence during MOH inspections may be subjected to non-compliance action. If there is a HIFU apparatus without a valid NEA licence, please immediately cease the usage of the HIFU apparatus and apply for the required licence via the GoBusiness portal at [www.gobusiness.gov.sg](http://www.gobusiness.gov.sg) using your institution's CorpPass.

6 For further clarification relating to this advisory, please contact Ms Sim Joo Huang at 6708 6224 or [Sim\\_Joo\\_Huang@nea.gov.sg](mailto:Sim_Joo_Huang@nea.gov.sg).

Yours faithfully

Ho Seng Kim  
Deputy Director  
Non-Ionising Radiation Control Department, Regulation Division  
Radiation Protection and Nuclear Science Group

[This is a computer-generated letter. No signature is required.]