

SAFETY ALERT Power Cables Safety

"Sharing Lessons Learned"

A safety incident was reported regarding an electrical short circuit and damage to the Medical Equipment (Infusion Pump). Fortunately, it was detected before there were serious consequences. Upon assessment, the following was found:

- Δ Quality of the power cable was poor and not medical-grade, with suitable thickness and low current capacity (see Figure 1).
- Δ Power plug was found to be modified to UK standard (Not an approved plug by Clinical Engineering).
- Δ The Pump was found to be connected to an extension cord (Not directly to the wall outlet). (see Figure 2).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. Use only medical-grade power cables, as originally received, with each new Medical Equipment.
- 2. Plug all Medical Equipment (Infusion Pumps) directly into the outlets available on the wall.
- 3. Report and send all Medical Equipment with visible signs of cuts to the power cables, to Clinical Engineering, in order to replace the affected cables immediately.
- 4. Request the required plug replacement for Medical Equipment (UK type or other) from Clinical Engineering, in case of need of a different power plug.



(Figure 1): Unapproved low quality cable affected.



(Figure 2): Damaged Infusion Pump due to unapproved extension cord.

Prepared by Clinical Engineering