

SAFETY TIPS TO PREVENT PMD- & PAB-RELATED

Brought to you by Central Region Trauma Services (CRTS) in collaboration with Nee Soon Town Council and KTPH Emergency Surgery and Trauma.

Personal mobility devices (PMDs) and power-assisted bicycles (PABs) have been convenient tools of transport and delivery in recent years. However, did you know that, with increased usage of these devices, the number of related household fires has also increased? Annual statistics released by the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) showed that there were 26 PAB-related fires in 2020, up from 13 the year before.

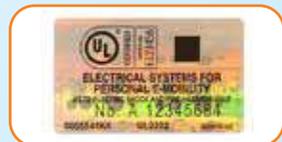
Traumatic injuries associated with such incidents include burns, gas and smoke inhalation, and toxin exposure. These injuries can range from mild to severe, and can even be fatal if not treated immediately.



Here are some safety tips that can help keep you and your loved ones safe!

Dos

- Ensure that all devices purchased meet the fire safety standards. Use or purchase EN15194-certified PAB devices with LTA's orange seal of approval or UL2272-certified PMDs.
- Use original power adapters that carry the Safety Mark.
- Charge the batteries in a cool and dry area, away from combustible items.



Don'ts

- Avoid charging the batteries over the recommended time frame, especially overnight.
- Do not use defective batteries that are bloated, corroded or powdery.
- Do not modify or repair the device on your own.



In case of fire

- Shout "FIRE" several times and get everyone to go to an open area.



- Stay low to the ground to avoid smoke and fumes.



- Go to the nearest exit and close the doors behind you.



Call 995(SCDF)

TRUE OR FALSE? Dr Jerry Goo Tiong Thye

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Q Pouring water on a person on fire can extinguish the flames.

A True to a certain extent. It is advisable to instruct the victim to drop and roll on the ground. You may also use a wet cloth to smother the flames. Do not touch the injured area until paramedics arrive.

Q I can use a fire extinguisher on a person on fire.

A It should be used as a last resort on a person. The fire extinguisher takes time to extinguish flames. It may aggravate burn injuries further. Instructing the person to drop and roll on the ground is a faster and better way to extinguish the fire.