

Mr Derek Lamb
IT Department
Viamed
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Product Advisory Notice; Viamed Infant Resuscitation Cabinet

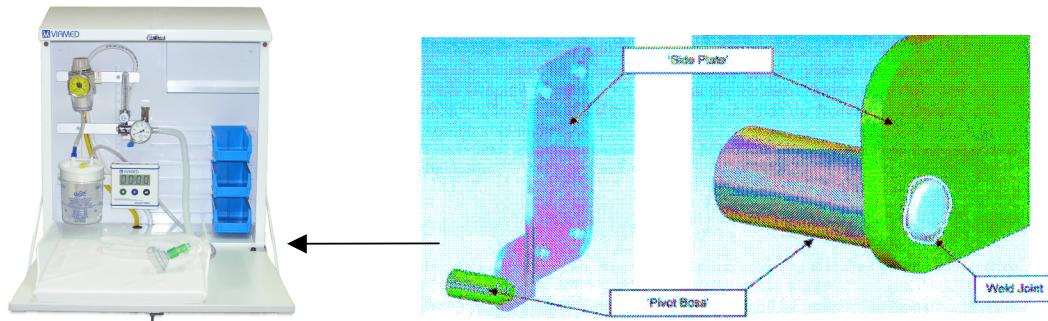
Dear Mr D Lamb,

I am writing to you as our records show that your organization has in the past purchased a Viamed wall-mounted infant resuscitation cabinet system.

Whilst the Viamed Infant Resuscitation Cabinet has proved extremely reliable and durable in service, we have recently been notified of a broken hinge on one cabinet, and a suspected cracked weld on a second. The part concerned is the weld between the pivot boss and the side plate.

There was no significant risk to the patient as the drop-down platform also has an added safety mechanism in the form of a retaining bar, which prevents the platform from falling off completely.

This product has been on the market since 1993, and prior to this report, there have been no other reports of failure of the hinge.



Whilst it has not been possible to determine the exact cause of failure, it is probable that the hinge assembly was subjected to a load greater than the design specification; this can be caused by excessive weight being placed on the platform, or by attempting to close the door with an obstruction in the gap where the door meets the cabinet body.

Action required

The weld joints on each cabinet should be examined and inspected for cracks. We strongly recommend that this procedure be added to the annual PPM inspection.

The maximum loading is clearly stated in the Operator's manual. Users should be aware that the maximum loading, including pressure generated by the operators during use, should not exceed 25Kg. Additionally, the door must close freely; if significant force is required in order to close the catch, it is likely that there is an obstruction in the gap between the bottom of the cabinet and the door, which puts stress on the hinges and the door catch.

If the operators are not aware of the maximum loading and the correct procedure for closing the cabinet, then we would advise that operator training should be reviewed to incorporate this information.

I have enclosed an advisory label, which should be affixed to the platform where it is clearly visible; we recommend that it be placed at the front of the platform adjacent to the bed.



Caution

Do not apply excessive force to the treatment platform.
Maximum loading: 25 Kg

Ensure that the door is free of obstructions before closing.
Do not attempt to close the clasp if force is required to close the door.

I have also enclosed details of Viamed's servicing and maintenance contract charges should you not wish to maintain the equipment in-house.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Steve Hardaker
UK Sales Manager