

2021 Electronic

Permission to print:	Yes
Category	Electrical / electronic
Incident type	Good Catch Near Miss
Duration of incident:	hours
Description:	<p>Following a software upgrade on the Spectrum Quantum pump system, the workstation locked on powerup rendering the system inoperable. This occurred prior to the patient entering the theatre so the case was put on hold. This occurred in the workstations in both operating theatres. We utilised our spare workstation to get one theatre up and running, fortunately one case booked for the day. The spare workstation had not been upgraded. This was our first experience with upgrade problems. The supplier subsequently managed to get things going. We initially thought it might have been that the software was corrupted during transfer from the server, or operator error in implementing the upgrade. It transpired that the issue has been not knowing what the time frame for the update sequencing was and moving to the next step too early resulting in a boot up loop that we could not interrupt. The company support could replicate the error using our action sequence. Of note there is nothing in the equipment manuals that deal with this.</p>
GOOD CATCH - what went well	Tested the system after software upgrade prior to clinical use.
Preventive actions	Software upgrades on non theatre days.
Type of incident:	Management
Equipment Lack of other support services:	Yes
Hospital incident filed:	No
Ext Authority Advised	No
Discussed with team:	Yes
Rule issue	No
Skill issue	No
Patient outcome variance f	Nil
Commentary	<p>Evolving heart lung machine software sophistication adds increasing levels of complexity to system safety. This incident highlights the importance of user manuals and timely updates where gaps are identified. It would be prudent for Quantum users to discuss this issue with suppliers. PIRS Ed.</p>