

Hong Kong Education City Releases Follow-Up Findings on the “Medisafe” Incident

(Hong Kong, 18 August 2025) In response to media enquiries about the MediSafe incident, Hong Kong Education City (EdCity) issued the following statement today:

Since mid-June 2025, upon learning of public concerns regarding the eligibility of “Medisafe” for the Hong Kong ICT Awards 2024: Student Innovation Award (HKICTA Student Innovation Award), EdCity promptly engaged with relevant organisations and individuals to gain better understanding and investigate the matter. EdCity undertook follow-up actions with due regard to rigour, transparency, fairness, and impartiality, including collecting information and posing follow-up questions to the involved participant, her parents, and the relevant United States (US) technology company, among others, in order to verify whether the submitted entry complies with the judging criteria and regulations of the competition.

On 15 August 2025, EdCity and the final judging panel of the HKICTA Student Innovation Award convened a meeting (the meeting) to thoroughly review the findings of the investigation. The meeting minutes will be submitted to the Secretariat of the Hong Kong ICT Awards and its Standard Assurance Sub-Committee. Based on the information gathered in the investigation to date, the final judging panel has endorsed the following analysis and findings presented by EdCity –

1. Information Obtained Indicates “MedSafe” Concept Originally Developed by the Student

Referring to the rules of HKICTA Student Innovation Award, the objective of the competition is to encourage student participation in ICT innovation and to foster creativity and interest in the field of innovation.

Throughout the assessment process, the key evaluation criteria focused primarily on the innovation and creativity of the entries in the field of information and communications technology, the functionality of the design, market potential and the benefits and impact on the target users. The secondary school to which the student belongs has submitted supporting information confirming that the student had presented the relevant concept and prototype of the development project to the school and teacher as early as October 2023. The supervising teacher maintained ongoing discussion with the student throughout the development process. The concept was presented by the student at the “26th Hong Kong Youth Science and Technology Innovation Competition” and “JPC Innovation and Technology Competition 2023-24”, held in January and February 2024 respectively. Upon comparing the submission of the student for the two aforementioned competitions and the presentation submitted to the HKICTA Student Innovation Award in July 2024, it was found that the content across all three - including the concept and project prototype – was highly similar. In view of the above, the final judging panel accepted “MediSafe” submitted to the HKICTA Student Innovation Award as the original concept developed by the student.

2. Competition Judging Focused on Originality and Innovation of Concept

Under the rules of the HKICTA Student Innovation Award, participants are not required to submit any finished products or models. The preparation of display materials is left entirely to the discretion of individual participants. Within this evaluation framework, all entries were assessed based their innovation and creativity in information and communications technology (ICT), design functionality, market potential, and overall benefits and impact on the target audience. The final judging panel agreed that the presence or absence of product display had no bearing on the judging outcome.

3. Information Obtained Indicates Project Concept Not Originated from the US Technology Company

According to the information obtained through the investigation, it was noted that the parent of the student began communication with the US technology company in March 2024, using the project materials of the students, including design concepts and operational principles as the basis for developing the commercial collaboration direction. Adhere, the findings further indicate that the concept of the Medisafe project did not originate from the American technology company.

Based on the information gathered in the investigation to date, there is no indication that the competition submission or presentation content provided by the student was in any way connected to the commercialisation or optimisation activities undertaken by their parents.

4. Allegations Regarding the Use of Patient Data

Regarding the use of patient data, the parents of the student involved have clarified that the data used did not contain any real personal information of patients. Furthermore, the competition materials submitted by the student indicated that the data was based solely on “simulated patient” information.

5. Confirmation of Eligibility and Retention of Award for “MediSafe” Project

Having considered the findings and analysis derived from the information currently available, the final judging panel unanimously endorsed the continued eligibility of the “MediSafe” project and the retention of the award conferred upon the student.

EdCity reiterates that all evaluation procedures throughout the judging process were conducted in strict accordance with the prevailing rules and regulations of the HKICTA Student Innovation Award. In the event that any breach of rules is identified, EdCity will handle the matter with impartiality and take appropriate follow-up actions to safeguard the credibility and integrity of the competition. EdCity further appeals to all sectors of the community to join hands in fostering a culture that promotes innovative thinking and self-directed learning. Parents are encouraged to participate in their children’s educational development in a measured and supportive manner, avoiding excessive involvement. Such an approach is instrumental in nurturing students’ initiative, creativity, and capacity for independent learning.

-End-

About the Hong Kong ICT Awards

The Hong Kong ICT Awards are coordinated by the Digital Policy Office and jointly organised by various industry associations and professional bodies in Hong Kong. These organising bodies are responsible for the execution of eight distinct award categories. Their duties include formulating judging criteria in accordance with the HKICTA competition guidelines, soliciting and vetting entries, coordinating the assessment process, hosting individual award presentation ceremonies, and promoting the Hong Kong ICT Awards across sectors. EdCity has been officially appointed as the Leading Organiser for the Hong Kong ICT Awards 2024: Student Innovation Award, and is fully committed to nurturing innovation among students and supporting the development of Hong Kong as a hub for international innovation and technology.