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Meeting to discuss ambulance safety

IPOH: The Perak Health Department will hold a meeting today to discuss issues on ambulance safety in the state.

State Health, Consumer Affairs, National Integration and Human Resources Committee chairman A. Sivanesan said the discussion would focus on identifying and ensuring ambulances were in good condition at all times to ensure safety of rescuers and patients.

"We will be announcing the outcome of the discussion in a press conference," he said yesterday.

Sivanesan was commenting on the fatal accident involving an ambulance belonging to the Slim River Hospital.

"We will also discuss this at the meeting tomorrow (today), the possible cause and whether the vehicle was in good condition and safe for use."

In the incident at Km368.4 of

the North-South Expressway here on Sunday, a patient and an ambulance driver were killed after the ambulance they were travelling in was involved in an accident.

The driver has been identified as Mohd Hafidz Mohd Bahari, 37, from Slim River, and the patient as Azizah Dolah, 66, from Felda Gunung Besout 2 in Sungkai.

A 40-year-old assistant medical officer sustained minor injuries in the incident, while a doctor and a nurse, aged 29 and 28 respectively, escaped unhurt.

All three were referred to the Psychiatry Department for post-traumatic counselling and discharged.

The south-bound ambulance from Raja Permaisuri Bainun Hospital here was on its way to Slim River Hospital when the accident happened.