

Tanjong Pagar crash: Fuel tank ruptured, causing fire

The coroner's inquiry into last year's crash on Feb 13 heard yesterday that the five men who were killed were with friends, and they were taking turns driving a white BMW M4 up and down Tanjong Pagar Road at very high speeds. They also had been drinking nearby before their car crashed while on its fourth round.



2 Point of impact

- The car mounts a kerb before its rear collides with a pillar in front of a shophouse at 37 Tanjong Pagar Road.
- The car is estimated to be travelling at a speed of between 87kmh and 99kmh at the point of impact.

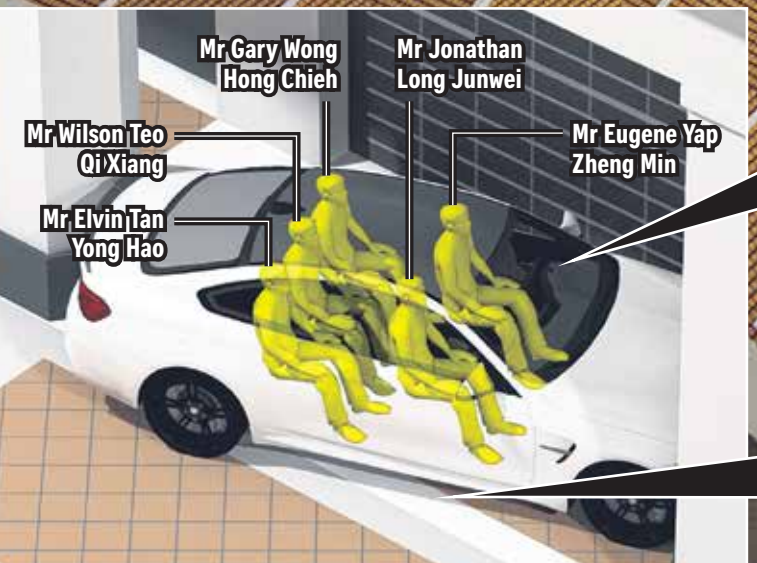


1 Car skids

- Estimated to be travelling at a speed of between 110kmh and 148kmh, the car skids as the driver, Mr Jonathan Long, loses control while speeding down Tanjong Pagar Road in the direction of Maxwell Road.

3 Airbags not deployed

- The car's airbags do not deploy upon impact. Investigations indicate that the airbags were not deactivated.
- Instead, it is believed that they did not deploy because the car's sensors are located on its sides and front, while the point of impact was at its rear.



4 Bursting into flames

- The car bursts into flames shortly after impact. It is found that the fuel tank had ruptured.
- Investigators conclude it was a petrol fire that started from beneath the car carriage, with the heated exhaust likely being the ignition source.



Mr Jonathan Long Junwei, 29
Cause of death: Severe burns
Blood alcohol reading: 86mg (Legal limit is 80mg)



Mr Eugene Yap Zheng Min, 29
Cause of death: Severe burns
Blood alcohol reading: 119mg



Mr Wilson Teo Qi Xiang, 26
Cause of death: Severe burns and spinal injuries. Body was identified through DNA
Blood alcohol reading: 162mg



Mr Elvin Tan Yong Hao, 28
Cause of death: Severe burns
Blood alcohol reading: 128mg



Mr Gary Wong Hong Chieh, 29
Cause of death: Severe burns and pelvic injuries. Body was identified through DNA
Blood alcohol reading: 111mg