Prepublication Requirements

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Revised Requirements for Ambulatory Surgical Centers

Applicable to Ambulatory Surgical Centers

Effective December 19, 2014

Environment of Care (EC)

Standard EC.02.04.01
The organization manages medical equipment risks.

Elements of Performance for EC.02.04.01

A 2.  The organization maintains either a written inventory of all medical equipment or a written inventory of selected equipment categorized by physical risk associated with use (including all life-support equipment) and equipment incident history. The organization evaluates new types of equipment before initial use to determine whether they should be included in the inventory. (See also EC.02.04.03, EPs 1 and 3)

For ambulatory surgical centers that elect to use The Joint Commission deemed status option: The organization maintains a written inventory of all medical equipment. (See also EC.02.04.03, EPs 1 and 3)

The concepts of previous EPs 3 and 4 were merged in the revised EP 3.

C 3.  The organization identifies the activities for maintaining, inspecting, and testing for all medical equipment on the inventory. Various maintenance strategies may be used to ensure reliable performance (for example, predictive maintenance, reliability-centered maintenance, interval-based inspections, corrective maintenance, or metered maintenance). Defined intervals may be based on criteria such as manufacturers’ recommendations, risk levels, and current organization experience. (See also EC.02.04.03, EPs 2 and 3)

For ambulatory surgical centers that elect to use The Joint Commission deemed status option: The organization identifies the activities and frequencies for maintaining, inspecting, and testing for all medical equipment on the inventory. These activities and frequencies must follow manufacturers’ recommendations, risk levels, and current organization experience. (See also EC.02.04.03, EPs 2 and 3)

Note: Organizations may use different maintenance strategies based on the type of equipment. Strategies must include defined intervals for inspecting, testing, and maintaining equipment on the inventory. Defined intervals are based on criteria such as manufacturers’ recommendations, risk levels, and current organization experience. In addition, predictive maintenance, reliability-centered maintenance, interval-based inspections, corrective maintenance, or metered maintenance may be selected to ensure reliable performance.

Key: A indicates scoring category A; C indicates scoring category C;  indicates that documentation is required;  indicates Measure of Success is needed;  indicates an Immediate Threat to Health or Safety;  indicates situational decision rules apply;  indicates direct impact requirements apply;  indicates an identified risk area.

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organization identifies the activities and frequencies for maintaining, inspecting, and testing for all operating components of utility systems. These activities and frequencies must follow manufacturers’ recommendations or other federal or state requirements.
(See also EC.02.05.05, EPs 2 and 3)

Standard EC.02.04.03
The organization inspects, tests, and maintains medical equipment.

Elements of Performance for EC.02.04.03
A 2. ❍ The organization inspects, tests, and maintains all life-support high-risk equipment. These activities are documented. (See also EC.02.04.01, EPs 3 and 4)

Note: High-risk equipment includes life-support equipment.

C 3. ❍ The organization inspects, tests, and maintains non-life-support high-risk equipment identified on the medical equipment inventory. These activities are documented. (See also EC.02.04.01, EPs 2, 4, and 3)

Standard EC.02.05.01
The organization manages risks associated with its utility systems.

Elements of Performance for EC.02.05.01
The concepts of previous EPs 3 and 4 were merged in the revised EP 3, and a new EP 4 was added.

C 3. ❍ The organization identifies inspection and maintenance activities for all operating components of utility systems. (See also EC.02.05.05, EP 2; EC.02.05.09, EP 1)

Note: Organizations may use different approaches to maintenance. For example, activities such as predictive maintenance, reliability-centered maintenance, interval-based maintenance, corrective maintenance, or metered maintenance may be selected to ensure dependable performance.

A 4. ❍ The organization identifies the intervals for inspecting, testing, and maintaining all operating components of the utility systems, based on criteria such as manufacturers’ recommendations, risk levels, or organization experience. (See also EC.02.05.05, EP 2)

C 3. ❍ The organization identifies the activities and frequencies for maintaining, inspecting, and testing for all operating components of utility systems. Various maintenance strategies may be used to ensure reliable performance (for example, predictive maintenance, reliability-centered maintenance, interval-based inspections, corrective maintenance, or metered maintenance). Defined intervals may be based on criteria such as manufacturers’ recommendations, risk levels, and current organization experience. (See also EC.02.05.05, EP 2; EC.02.05.09, EP 1)

For ambulatory surgical centers that elect to use The Joint Commission deemed status option: The organization identifies the activities and frequencies for maintaining, inspecting, and testing for all operating components of utility systems. These activities and frequencies must follow manufacturers’ recommendations or other federal or state requirements.
(See also EC.02.05.05, EP 2; EC.02.05.09, EP 1)

C 4. ❍ For ambulatory surgical centers that elect to use The Joint Commission deemed status option: The organization provides ventilation, temperature, and humidity levels in accordance with the levels established in the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) standards followed during initial construction or subsequent major renovations, alterations, or modernizations of the facility.

Standard EC.02.05.03
The organization has a reliable emergency electrical power source.

Element of Performance for EC.02.05.03
A 10. ❍ For ambulatory surgical centers that elect to use The Joint Commission deemed status option: For facilities that were constructed, had a change in occupancy type, or have undergone an electrical system upgrade since 1983, the organization has a Type I or Type 3 essential electrical systems (EES) in accordance with NFPA 99, 1999 edition.

Standard EC.02.05.09
The organization inspects, tests, and maintains medical gas and vacuum systems.

Note 1: This standard does not require organizations to have the medical gas and vacuum systems discussed below. However, if an organization has these types of systems, then the following inspection, testing, and maintenance requirements apply.

Note 2: Piped medical gas systems include oxygen, nitrous oxide, and medical air systems. Piped vacuum systems include both medical-surgical vacuum and waste anesthetic gas disposal (WAGD) systems.

Element of Performance for EC.02.05.09
A 1. ❍ In time frames defined by the organization, the organization inspects, tests, and maintains critical components of piped medical gas systems, including master signal panels, area alarms, automatic pressure switches, shutoff valves, flexible connectors, and outlets. These activities are documented. (See also EC.02.05.01, EP 3)

For ambulatory surgical centers that elect to use The Joint Commission deemed status option: In accordance with time frames established in NFPA 99,
1999 edition, section 4-3.4, the organization tests all piped medical gas and vacuum systems (including waste anesthetic gas disposal systems). These activities are documented. (See also EC.02.05.01, EP 3)

Human Resources (HR)

Standard HR.01.05.03
Staff participate in ongoing education and training.

Element of Performance for HR.01.05.03
C 1. ☐ Staff participate in ongoing education and training to maintain or increase their competency. Staff participation is documented. ☐ ☒

For ambulatory surgical centers that elect to use The Joint Commission deemed status option: Staff participate in ongoing education and training with respect to their roles in the fire response plan. (For information on staff's roles in the fire response plan, see EC.02.03.01, EP 10.)