Infection, Prevention, and Control

IC.02.02.01 EP 2: The organization implements infection prevention and control activities when doing the following: Performing intermediate and high-level disinfection and sterilization of medical equipment, devices, and supplies. *(See also EC.02.04.03, EP 4)*

Note: Sterilization is used for items such as implants and surgical instruments. High-level disinfection may also be used if sterilization is not possible, as is the case with flexible endoscopes.

Footnote *: For further information regarding performing intermediate and high-level disinfection of medical equipment, devices, and supplies, refer to the website of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/#r3 (Sterilization and Disinfection in Healthcare Settings).

IC.02.02.01 EP 1: The organization implements infection prevention and control activities when doing the following: Cleaning and performing low-level disinfection of medical equipment, devices, and supplies. *

Note: Low-level disinfection is used for items such as stethoscopes and blood glucose meters. Additional cleaning and disinfecting is required for medical equipment, devices, and supplies used by patients who are isolated as part of implementing transmission-based precautions.

Footnote *: For further information regarding cleaning and performing low-level disinfection of medical equipment, devices, and supplies, refer to the website of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/#r3.

IC.02.02.01 EP 4: The organization implements infection prevention and control activities when doing the following: Storing medical equipment, devices, and supplies.
IC.02.01.01 EP 2: The organization uses standard precautions, * including the use of personal protective equipment, to reduce the risk of infection. (See also EC.02.02.01, EP 4)

Note: Standard precautions are infection prevention and control measures to protect against possible exposure to infectious agents. These precautions are general and applicable to all patients.

Footnote *: For further information regarding standard precautions, refer to the website of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at https://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/recommendations/core-practices.html (Infection Control in Healthcare Settings).

Medication Management

MM.01.01.03 EP 2: The organization follows a process for managing high-alert and hazardous medications. (See also EC.02.02.01, EPs 1 and 8; MM.03.01.01, EP 9)

Note: This element of performance is also applicable to sample medications.

MM.01.02.01 EP 2: The organization takes action to prevent errors involving the interchange of the medications on its list of look-alike/sound-alike medications.

Note: This element of performance is also applicable to sample medications.

MM.03.01.01 EP 8: The organization removes all expired, damaged, and/or contaminated medications and stores them separately from medications available for administration.

Note: This element of performance is also applicable to sample medications.

Environment of Care

EC.02.02.01 EP 5: The organization minimizes risks associated with selecting, handling, storing, transporting, using, and disposing of hazardous chemicals.

EC.02.04.03 EP 3: The organization inspects, tests, and maintains all non-high-risk equipment identified on the medical equipment inventory. These activities are documented.

EC.02.03.05 EP 15: At least monthly, the organization inspects portable fire extinguishers. The results and completion dates are documented.

Note 1: There are many ways to document the inspections, such as using bar-coding equipment, using check marks on a tag, or using an inventory.

Note 2: Inspections involve a visual check to determine correct type of and clear and unobstructed access to a fire extinguisher, in addition to a check for broken parts and full charge.
**EC.02.05.01 EP 9:** The organization labels utility system controls to facilitate partial or complete emergency shutdowns.

Note 1: Examples of utility system controls that should be labeled are utility source valves, utility system main switches and valves, individual circuits in an electrical distribution panel.

Note 2: For example, the fire alarm system’s circuit is clearly labeled as Fire Alarm Circuit; the disconnect method (that is, the circuit breaker) is marked in red; and access is restricted to authorized personnel. Information regarding the dedicated branch circuit for the fire alarm panel is located in the control unit.