

Prepublication Requirements

• Issued August 21, 2023 •



Revisions to Align with Critical Access Hospital Changes and the Hospital Conditions of Participation

The Joint Commission has approved the following revisions for prepublication. While revised requirements are published in the semiannual updates to the print manuals (as well as in the online *E-dition*®), accredited organizations and paid subscribers can also view them in the monthly periodical *The Joint Commission Perspectives*®. To begin your subscription, call 800-746-6578 or visit <http://www.jcrinc.com>.

Please note: Where applicable, this report shows current standards and EPs first, with deleted language struck-through. Then, the revised requirement follows in bold text, with new language underlined.

APPLICABLE TO THE HOSPITAL ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Effective January 1, 2024

Environment of Care (EC) Chapter

EC.01.01.01

The hospital plans activities to minimize risks in the environment of care.

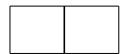
Note 1: One or more persons can be assigned to manage risks associated with the management plans described in this standard.

Note 2: For hospitals that use Joint Commission accreditation for deemed status purposes: The hospital complies with the 2012 edition of NFPA 99: Health Care Facilities Code. Chapters 7, 8, 12, and 13 of the Health Care Facilities Code do not apply.

Note 3: For further information on waiver and equivalency requests, see <https://www.jointcommission.org/resources/patient-safety-topics/the-physical-environment/life-safety-code-information-and-resources/> and NFPA 99-2012: 1.4.

Element(s) of Performance for EC.01.01.01

12. **The hospital complies with the 2012 edition of NFPA 99: Health Care Facilities Code, including Tentative Interim Amendments (TIA) 12-2, 12-3, 12-4, 12-5, and 12-6. Chapters 7, 8, 12, and 13 of the Health Care Facilities Code do not apply.**







EC.02.04.01

The hospital manages medical equipment risks.

Element(s) of Performance for EC.02.04.01

Key: **D** indicates that documentation is required;





R indicates an identified risk area;



4. The hospital identifies the activities and associated frequencies, in writing, for maintaining, inspecting, and testing all medical equipment on the inventory. ~~These activities and associated frequencies are in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations or with strategies of an alternative equipment maintenance (AEM) program.~~  
~~Note 1: The strategies of an AEM program must not reduce the safety of equipment and must be based on accepted standards of practice, such as the American National Standards Institute/Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation handbook ANSI/AAMI EQ56: 2013, Recommended Practice for a Medical Equipment Management Program.~~
~~Note 2: Medical equipment with activities and associated frequencies in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations must have a 100% completion rate.~~
~~Note 3: Scheduled maintenance activities for both high-risk and non-high-risk medical equipment in an alternative equipment maintenance (AEM) program inventory must have a 100% completion rate. AEM frequency is determined by the hospital's AEM program.~~
4. **The hospital identifies the activities and associated frequencies, in writing, for maintaining, inspecting, and testing all medical equipment on the inventory.**  
Note: Activities and associated frequencies for maintaining, inspecting, and testing of medical equipment must have a 100% completion rate.

EC.02.04.03

The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains medical equipment.

Element(s) of Performance for EC.02.04.03

2. The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains all high-risk equipment. These activities are documented.  
 Note 1: High-risk equipment includes medical equipment for which there is a risk of serious injury or even death to a patient or staff member should it fail, which includes life-support equipment.
 Note 2: Required activities and associated frequencies for maintaining, inspecting, and testing of medical equipment ~~completed in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations~~ must have a 100% completion rate.
~~Note 3: Scheduled maintenance activities for high-risk medical equipment in an alternative equipment maintenance (AEM) program inventory must have a 100% completion rate. AEM frequency is determined by the hospital's AEM program.~~
 (See also PC.02.01.11, EP 2)
2. **The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains all high-risk equipment. These activities are documented.**  
Note 1: High-risk equipment includes medical equipment for which there is a risk of serious injury or even death to a patient or staff member should it fail, which includes life-support equipment.
Note 2: Required activities and associated frequencies for maintaining, inspecting, and testing of medical equipment must have a 100% completion rate.

Key:  indicates that documentation is required;  indicates an identified risk area;

3. The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains non-high-risk equipment identified on the medical equipment inventory. These activities are documented. ☐ (D)
 Note: Scheduled maintenance activities for non-high-risk medical equipment in an alternative equipment maintenance (AEM) program inventory must have a 100% completion rate. AEM frequency is determined by the hospital's AEM program.
3. **The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains non-high-risk equipment identified on the medical equipment inventory. These activities are documented.** ☐ (D)

EC.02.05.01

The hospital manages risks associated with its utility systems.

Element(s) of Performance for EC.02.05.01

5. The hospital identifies the activities and associated frequencies, in writing, for inspecting, testing, and maintaining all operating components of utility systems on the inventory. (R) (D)
~~These activities and associated frequencies are in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations or with strategies of an alternative equipment maintenance (AEM) program.~~
 Note 1: ~~The strategies of an AEM program must not reduce the safety of equipment and must be based on accepted standards of practice. An example of guidelines for physical plant equipment maintenance is the American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE) book Maintenance Management for Health Care Facilities.~~
 Note 2: ~~For guidance on maintenance and testing activities for Essential Electric Systems (Type I), see NFPA 99-2012: 6.4.4.~~
5. **The hospital identifies the activities and associated frequencies, in writing, for inspecting, testing, and maintaining all operating components of utility systems on the inventory.** (R) (D)
Note: For guidance on maintenance and testing activities for Essential Electric Systems (Type I), see NFPA 99-2012: 6.4.4.

EC.02.05.05

The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains utility systems.

Note: At times, maintenance is performed by an external service. In these cases, hospitals are not required to possess maintenance documentation but must have access to such documentation during survey and as needed.

Element(s) of Performance for EC.02.05.05

4. The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains the following: High-risk utility system components on the inventory. The completion date and the results of the activities are documented. R D

Note 1: A high-risk utility system includes components for which there is a risk of serious injury or even death to a patient or staff member should it fail, which includes life-support equipment.

Note 2: Required activities and associated frequencies for maintaining, inspecting, and testing of utility systems components ~~completed in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations~~ must have a 100% completion rate.

~~Note 3: Scheduled maintenance activities for high-risk utility systems components in an alternative equipment maintenance (AEM) program inventory must have a 100% completion rate.~~

4. **The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains the following: High-risk utility system components on the inventory. The completion date and the results of the activities are documented.** R D

Note 1: A high-risk utility system includes components for which there is a risk of serious injury or even death to a patient or staff member should it fail, which includes life-support equipment.

Note 2: Required activities and associated frequencies for maintaining, inspecting, and testing of utility systems components must have a 100% completion rate.

5. The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains the following: Infection control utility system components on the inventory. The completion date and the results of the activities are documented. R D

Note 4: Required activities and associated frequencies for maintaining, inspecting, and testing of utility systems components ~~completed in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations~~ must have a 100% completion rate.

~~Note 2: Scheduled maintenance activities for infection control utility systems components in an alternative equipment maintenance (AEM) program inventory must have a 100% completion rate.~~

5. **The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains the following: Infection control utility system components on the inventory. The completion date and the results of the activities are documented.** R D

Note: Required activities and associated frequencies for maintaining, inspecting, and testing of utility systems components must have a 100% completion rate.

6. The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains the following: Non-high-risk utility system components on the inventory. The completion date and the results of the activities are documented. D

~~Note: Scheduled maintenance activities for non-high-risk utility systems components in an alternative equipment maintenance (AEM) program inventory must have a 100% completion rate. AEM frequency is determined by the hospital AEM program.~~

6. **The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains the following: Non-high-risk utility system components on the inventory. The completion date and the results of the activities are documented.** D

Life Safety (LS) Chapter

Key: **D** indicates that documentation is required;

R indicates an identified risk area;

LS.01.01.01

The hospital designs and manages the physical environment to comply with the Life Safety Code.

Element(s) of Performance for LS.01.01.01

8. The hospital complies with the Life Safety Code (NFPA 101-2012 and Tentative Interim Amendments [TIA] 12-1, 12-2, 12-3, and 12-4).

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