

Prepublication Requirements

• Issued September 19, 2019 •



EC Revisions for OBS

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 OFFICE-BASED SURGERY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Effective January 1, 2020

Environment of Care (EC) Chapter

EC.02.03.01

The practice manages fire risks.

Element(s) of Performance for EC.02.03.01

- | | | | | |
|----|---|--|---|--|
| 1. | The practice minimizes the potential for harm from fire, smoke, and other products of combustion. | <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; width: 20px;">R</td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table> | R | |
| R | | | | |
| 1. | The practice minimizes the potential for harm from fire, smoke, and other products of combustion.
<u>Note: For additional guidance on business occupancy requirements, see NFPA 101-2012.</u> | <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; width: 20px;">R</td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table> | R | |
| R | | | | |
| 4. | The practice maintains free and unobstructed access to all exits. | <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; width: 20px;">R</td> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table> | R | |
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| 4. | The practice maintains free and unobstructed access to all exits.
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| R | | | | |

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

R indicates an identified risk area;

EC.02.03.05

The practice maintains fire safety equipment and fire safety building features.

Note: This standard does not require the practice to have the types of fire safety equipment and building features described below. However, if these types of equipment or features exist within the building, then the following maintenance, testing, and inspection requirements apply.

Element(s) of Performance for EC.02.03.05

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>2. Every 6 months, the practice tests valve tamper switches and water flow devices. The completion date of the tests is documented.
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72, 1999 edition (Table 7-3.2).</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (D) |
| <p>2. Every 6 months, the practice tests <u>vane-type and pressure-type water flow devices</u> and valve tamper switches <u>on the inventory</u>. The <u>results and completion dates</u> are documented.
Note 1: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72-2010: Table 14.4.5.
Note 2: <u>Mechanical water-flow devices (including, but not limited to, water motor gongs) should be tested quarterly. The results and completion dates are documented. (For full text, refer to NFPA 25-2011: Table 5.1.1.2)</u></p> | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (D) |
| <p>3. Every 12 months, the practice tests duct detectors, electromechanical releasing devices, heat detectors, manual fire alarm boxes, and smoke detectors. The completion date of the tests is documented.
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72, 1999 edition (Table 7-3.2).</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (D) |
| <p>3. Every 12 months, the practice tests duct detectors, heat detectors, manual fire alarm boxes, and smoke detectors <u>on the inventory</u>. The <u>results and completion dates</u> are documented.
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72-2010: Table 14.4.5; 17.14.</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (D) |
| <p>4. Every 12 months, the practice tests visual and audible fire alarms, including speakers. The completion date of the tests is documented.
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72, 1999 edition (Table 7-3.2).</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (D) |
| <p>4. Every 12 months, the practice tests visual and audible fire alarms, including speakers <u>and door-releasing devices on the inventory</u>. The <u>results and completion dates</u> are documented.
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72-2010: Table 14.4.5.</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (D) |
| <p>5. Every quarter, the practice tests fire alarm equipment for notifying off-site fire responders. The completion date of the tests is documented.
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72, 1999 edition (Table 7-3.2).</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (D) |
| <p>5. Every <u>12 months</u>, the practice tests fire alarm equipment <u>on the inventory</u> for notifying off-site fire responders. The <u>results and completion dates</u> are documented.
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 72-2010: Table 14.4.5.</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (D) |

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- 6. For automatic sprinkler systems: Every week, the practice tests fire pumps under no-flow conditions. The completion date of the tests is documented. ☐ (D)
 Note 1: This element of performance applies only to office-based surgery practices that provide services or treatment that simultaneously render four or more patients incapable of taking action for self-preservation under emergency situations without the help of others.
 Note 2: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition.

- 6. **For automatic sprinkler systems: Every week, the practice tests fire pumps under no-flow conditions. The results and completion dates are documented.** ☐ (D)
Note 1: This element of performance applies only to office-based surgery practices that provide services or treatment that simultaneously render four or more patients incapable of taking action for self-preservation under emergency situations without the help of others.
Note 2: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25-2011: 8.3.1; 8.3.2.

- 7. For automatic sprinkler systems: Every 6 months, the practice tests water-storage tank high- and low-water level alarms. The completion date of the tests is documented. ☐ (D)
 Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition (Section 6-3.5).

- 7. **For automatic sprinkler systems: Every six months, the practice tests water-storage tank high- and low-water level alarms. The results and completion dates are documented.** ☐ (D)
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25-2011: 9.3; Table 9.1.1.2.

- 8. For automatic sprinkler systems: Every month during cold weather, the practice tests water-storage tank temperature alarms. The completion date of the tests is documented. ☐ (D)
 Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition (Section 6-3).

- 8. **For automatic sprinkler systems: Every month during cold weather, the practice tests water-storage tank temperature alarms. The results and completion dates are documented.** ☐ (D)
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25-2011: 9.2.4; Table 9.1.1.2.

- 9. For automatic sprinkler systems: Every 12 months, the practice tests main drains at system low point or at all system risers. The completion date of the tests is documented. ☐ (D)
 Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition (Section 9-2.6).

- 9. **For automatic sprinkler systems: Every 12 months, the practice tests main drains at system low point or at all system risers. The results and completion dates are documented.** ☐ (D)
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25-2011: 13.2.5; 13.3.3.4; Table 13.1.1.2; Table 13.8.1.

- 10. For automatic sprinkler systems: Every quarter, the practice inspects all fire department water supply connections. The completion dates of the inspections are documented. ☐ (D)
 Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25, 1998 edition (Section 9-7.1).

- 10. **For automatic sprinkler systems: Every quarter, the practice inspects all fire department water supply connections. The results and completion dates are documented.** ☐ (D)
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 25-2011: 13.7; Table 13.1.1.2.

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15. At least monthly, the practice inspects ~~all~~ portable fire extinguishers. The completion dates of the ~~inspections~~ are documented. ☐ (D)
 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 ~~for the presence and~~ correct type of extinguisher, broken parts, full charge, ~~and ease of access~~.
 Note 3: For additional guidance on inspection of fire extinguishers, see NFPA 10, ~~Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers, 1998 edition (Sections 1-6, 4-3, and 4-4)~~.
15. **At least monthly, the practice inspects portable fire extinguishers. The results and completion dates are documented.** ☐ (D)
 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.
 Note 3: For additional guidance on inspection of fire extinguishers, see NFPA 10-2010: 7.2.2; 7.2.4.
16. Every 12 months, the practice performs maintenance on portable fire extinguishers. The completion date ~~of the maintenance~~ is documented. ☐ (D)
 Note 1: There are many ways to document the maintenance, such as using bar-coding equipment, using check marks on a tag, or using an inventory.
 Note 2: For additional guidance on maintaining fire extinguishers, see NFPA 10, ~~Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers, 1998 edition (Sections 1-6, 4-3, and 4-4)~~.
16. **Every 12 months, the practice performs maintenance on portable fire extinguishers, including recharging. Individuals performing annual maintenance on extinguishers are certified. The results and completion dates are documented.** ☐ (D)
 Note 1: There are many ways to document the maintenance, such as using bar-coding equipment, using check marks on a tag, or using an inventory.
 Note 2: For additional guidance on maintaining fire extinguishers, see NFPA 10-2010: 7.1.2; 7.2.2; 7.2.4; 7.3.1.
18. The practice operates fire and smoke dampers at least every 4 years to verify that they fully close. The completion date ~~of the tests~~ is documented. ☐ (D)
 Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 90A, ~~Standard for the Installation of Air Conditioning and Ventilation Systems, 1999 edition (Section 3-4.7)~~.
18. **The practice operates fire and smoke dampers one year after installation and then at least every four years to verify that they fully close. The results and completion dates are documented.** ☐ (D)
 Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 90A-2012: 5.4.8; NFPA 80-2010: 19.4; NFPA 105-2010: 6.5.

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19. Every 12 months, the practice tests ~~all~~ automatic smoke-detection shutdown devices for air-handling equipment. The completion date ~~of the tests is~~ documented. R D
 Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 90A-2012: 6.4.1.
19. **Every 12 months, the practice tests automatic smoke-detection shutdown devices for air-handling equipment. The results and completion dates are documented.** R D
Note: For additional guidance on performing tests, see NFPA 90A-2012: 6.4.1.
28. Documentation of maintenance, testing, and inspection activities for EC.02.03.05, EPs 1–20, ~~25~~ (including fire alarm and fire protection features) includes the following: D
- Name of the activity
 - Date of the activity
 - Inventory of devices, equipment, or other items
 - Required frequency of the activity
 - Name and contact information, including affiliation, of the person who performed the activity
 - NFPA standard(s) referenced for the activity
 - Results of the activity
- Note: For additional guidance on documenting activities, see NFPA 25-2011: 4.3; 4.4; NFPA 72-2010: 14.2.1; 14.2.2; 14.2.3; 14.2.4; NFPA 101-2012: 18/19.7.2.1.5.10.1; 7.2.1.5.11.
28. **Documentation of maintenance, testing, and inspection activities for EC.02.03.05, EPs 1–20 (including fire alarm and fire protection features) includes the following:** D
- **Name of the activity**
 - **Date of the activity**
 - **Inventory of devices, equipment, or other items**
 - **Required frequency of the activity**
 - **Name and contact information, including affiliation, of the person who performed the activity**
 - **NFPA standard(s) referenced for the activity**
 - **Results of the activity**
- Note: For additional guidance on documenting activities, see NFPA 25-2011: 4.3; 4.4; NFPA 72-2010: 14.2.1; 14.2.2; 14.2.3; 14.2.4; NFPA 101-2012: 18/19.7.2.1.5.10.1; 7.2.1.5.11.**

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EC.02.05.07

The practice inspects, tests, and maintains emergency power systems.

Note: This standard does not require practices to have the types of emergency power equipment discussed below. However, if these types of equipment exist within the building, then the following maintenance, testing, and inspection requirements apply.

Element(s) of Performance for EC.02.05.07

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>3. Every quarter, the practice performs a functional test of stored emergency power supply systems (SEPSS) for 5 minutes or as specified for its class (whichever is less). The practice performs an annual test at full load for 60% of the full duration of its class. The completion dates of the tests are documented.</p> <p>Note 1: Non-SEPSS battery backup emergency power systems that the practice has determined to be critical for operations during a power failure (for example, laboratory equipment or electronic clinical records) should be properly tested and maintained in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.</p> <p>Note 2: SEPSS are intended to automatically supply illumination or power to critical areas and equipment essential for safety to human life. Included are systems that supply emergency power for such functions as illumination for safe exiting, ventilation where it is essential to maintain life, fire detection and alarm systems, public safety communications systems, and processes where the current interruption would produce serious life safety or health hazards to patients, the public, or staff.</p> <p>Note 3: Class defines the minimum time for which the SEPSS is designed to operate at its rated load without being recharged. For additional guidance, see NFPA 111, Standard on Stored Electrical Energy Emergency and Standby Power Systems, 1996 edition.</p> | <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">D</td> </tr> </table> | | D |
| | D | | |
| <p>3. Every quarter, the practice performs a functional test of stored emergency power supply systems (SEPSS) for 5 minutes or as specified for its class (whichever is less). The practice performs an annual test at full load for 60% of the full duration of its class. The completion dates of the tests are documented.</p> <p>Note 1: Non-SEPSS battery backup emergency power systems that the practice has determined to be critical for operations during a power failure (for example, laboratory equipment or electronic clinical records) should be properly tested and maintained in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.</p> <p>Note 2: SEPSS are intended to automatically supply illumination or power to critical areas and equipment essential for safety to human life. Included are systems that supply emergency power for such functions as illumination for safe exiting, ventilation where it is essential to maintain life, fire detection and alarm systems, public safety communications systems, and processes where the current interruption would produce serious life safety or health hazards to patients, the public, or staff.</p> <p>Note 3: Class defines the minimum time for which the SEPSS is designed to operate at its rated load without being recharged. For additional guidance, see NFPA 111-2010: 8.4</p> | <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">D</td> </tr> </table> | | D |
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