IEC 60601-1-2

Edition 4.0 2014-02

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

colour inside

Medical electrical equipment –
Part 1-2: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance – Collateral Standard: Electromagnetic disturbances – Requirements and tests

Appareils électromédicaux –
Partie 1-2: Exigences générales pour la sécurité de base et les performances essentielles – Norme collatérale: Perturbations électromagnétiques – Exigences et essais

IEC 60601-1-2:2014-02(en-fr)

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MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –

Part 1-2: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance – Collateral Standard: Electromagnetic disturbances – Requirements and tests

FOREWORD

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International standard IEC 60601-1-2 has been prepared by IEC subcommittee 62A: Common aspects of electrical equipment used in medical practice of IEC technical committee 62: Electrical equipment in medical practice.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition of IEC 60601-1-2, published in 2007, and constitutes a technical revision.

This fourth edition constitutes a collateral standard to IEC 60601-1: *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1: General requirements for safety and essential performance* hereafter referred to as the general standard.

The most significant changes with respect to the previous edition include the following modifications:

– specification of IMMUNITY TEST LEVELS according to the environments of INTENDED USE, categorized according to locations that are harmonized with IEC 60601-1-11: the professional healthcare facility environment, the HOME HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT and SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTS;

– specification of tests and test levels to improve the safety of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS when PORTABLE RF communications equipment is used closer to the MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT than was recommended based on the IMMUNITY TEST LEVELS that were specified in the third edition;

– specification of IMMUNITY tests and IMMUNITY TEST LEVELS according to the PORTS of the MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT or MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEM;

– specification of IMMUNITY TEST LEVELS based on the reasonably foreseeable maximum level of ELECTROMAGNETIC DISTURBANCES in the environments of INTENDED USE, resulting in some IMMUNITY TEST LEVELS that are higher than in the previous edition; and

– better harmonization with the RISK concepts of BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE, including deletion of the defined term “life-supporting”;

and the following additions:

– guidance for determination of IMMUNITY TEST LEVELS for SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTS;

– guidance for adjustment of IMMUNITY TEST LEVELS when special considerations of mitigations or INTENDED USE are applicable;

– guidance on RISK MANAGEMENT for BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE with regard to ELECTROMAGNETIC DISTURBANCES; and

– guidance on identification of IMMUNITY pass/fail criteria.

The text of this collateral standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
62A/916/FDIS	62A/924/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

In the 60601 series of publications, collateral standards specify general requirements for safety applicable to:

– a subgroup of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT (e.g. radiological equipment); or

– a specific characteristic of all MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT, not fully addressed in the general standard (e.g. ALARM SYSTEMS).

In this collateral standard, the following print types are used:

– Requirements and definitions: roman type.

– *Test specifications: italic type.*

– Informative material appearing outside of tables, such as notes, examples and references: in smaller type. Normative text of tables is also in a smaller type.

– TERMS DEFINED IN CLAUSE 3 OF THE GENERAL STANDARD, IN THIS COLLATERAL STANDARD OR AS NOTED: SMALL CAPITALS.

In referring to the structure of this collateral standard, the term

– “clause” means one of the numbered divisions within the table of contents, inclusive of all subdivisions (e.g. Clause 1 includes 1.1, 1.2, etc.);

– “subclause” means a numbered subdivision of a clause (e.g. 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3.1 are all subclauses of Clause 1).

References to clauses within this collateral standard are preceded by the term “Clause” followed by the clause number. References to subclauses within this collateral standard are by number only.

In this collateral standard, the conjunctive “or” is used as an “inclusive or” so a statement is true if any combination of the conditions is true.

The verbal forms used in this collateral standard conform to usage described in Annex H of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. For the purposes of this collateral standard, the auxiliary verb:

– “shall” means that compliance with a requirement or a test is mandatory for compliance with this collateral standard;

– “should” means that compliance with a requirement or a test is recommended but is not mandatory for compliance with this collateral standard;

– “may” is used to describe a permissible way to achieve compliance with a requirement or test.

An asterisk (*) as the first character of a title or at the beginning of a paragraph or table title indicates that there is guidance or rationale related to that item in Annex A.

A list of all parts of the IEC 60601 series, published under the general title *Medical electrical equipment*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

NOTE The attention of National Committees is drawn to the fact that equipment manufacturers and testing organizations may need a transitional period following publication of a new, amended or revised IEC publication in which to make products in accordance with the new requirements and to equip them for conducting new or revised tests. It is the recommendation of the committee that the content of this publication be adopted for mandatory implementation nationally not earlier than 3 years from the date of publication.

IMPORTANT – The “colour inside” logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this publication using a colour printer.

INTRODUCTION

The need for establishing specific standards for BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE with regard to ELECTROMAGNETIC DISTURBANCES for MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS is well recognized.

The requirements and tests specified by this collateral standard are generally applicable to MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS as defined in 3.63 and 3.64 in the general standard. For certain types of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS, these requirements might need to be modified by the special requirements of a particular standard. Writers of particular standards are encouraged to refer to Annex D for guidance in the application of this collateral standard.

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS are expected to provide their BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE without interfering with other equipment and systems in the ELECTROMAGNETIC ENVIRONMENTS in which they are intended by their MANUFACTURER to be used. The application of ELECTROMAGNETIC EMISSION standards is essential for the protection of:

– safety services;
– other MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS;
– non-ME EQUIPMENT (e.g. computers);
– telecommunications (e.g. radio/TV, telephone, radio-navigation).

Of even more importance, the application of ELECTROMAGNETIC IMMUNITY standards is essential to ensure safety of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS. To ensure safety, MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS are expected to provide their BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE in the ELECTROMAGNETIC ENVIRONMENTS of INTENDED USE throughout their EXPECTED SERVICE LIFE.

This collateral standard specifies IMMUNITY TEST LEVELS for safety for ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS intended by their MANUFACTURER for use in the professional healthcare facility environment or the HOME HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT. It recognizes that RF wireless communications equipment can no longer be prohibited from most PATIENT ENVIRONMENTS because in many cases it has become essential to the efficient provision of healthcare. This collateral standard also recognizes that, for certain SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTS, higher or lower IMMUNITY TEST LEVELS than those specified for the professional healthcare facility environment and the HOME HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT might be appropriate. This collateral standard provides guidance in determining appropriate IMMUNITY TEST LEVELS for SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTS.

The IMMUNITY TEST LEVELS specified for BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE are based on the reasonably foreseeable maximum of the ELECTROMAGNETIC DISTURBANCE phenomena in the applicable environments of INTENDED USE.

Not all ELECTROMAGNETIC DISTURBANCE phenomena are covered by this collateral standard, as it is not practical to do so. MANUFACTURERS of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS need to address this during their RISK ASSESSMENT and evaluate if other ELECTROMAGNETIC DISTURBANCE phenomena could make their product unsafe. This evaluation should be based on the environments of INTENDED USE and the reasonably foreseeable maximum levels of ELECTROMAGNETIC DISTURBANCES expected throughout the EXPECTED SERVICE LIFE.

This collateral standard recognizes that the MANUFACTURER has the responsibility to design and perform VERIFICATION of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS to meet the requirements of this collateral standard and to disclose information to the RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATION or OPERATOR so that the MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT or MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEM will remain safe throughout its EXPECTED SERVICE LIFE.