

10A NCAC 14E .0212 ELEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT

The physical plant shall provide equipment to carry out the functions of the clinic with the following minimum requirements:

(1) Mechanical requirements.

(a) Temperatures and humidities:

- (i) The mechanical systems shall be designed to provide the temperature and humidities shown in this Sub-Item:

Area	Temperature	Relative Humidity
Procedure	70-76 degrees F.	50-60%
Recovery	75-80 degrees F.	30-60%

- (b) All air supply and exhaust systems for the procedure suite and recovery area shall be mechanically operated. All fans serving exhaust systems shall be located at the discharge end of the system. The ventilation rates shown herein shall be considered as minimum acceptable rates.

- (i) The ventilation system shall be designed and balanced to provide the pressure relationships detailed in Sub-Item (b)(vii) of this Rule.

- (ii) All air supplied to procedure rooms shall be delivered at or near the ceiling of the room and all exhaust or return from the area shall be removed near the floor level at not less than three inches above the floor.

- (iii) Corridors shall not be used to supply air to or exhaust air from any procedure or recovery room except to maintain required pressure relationships.

- (iv) All ventilation or air conditioning systems serving procedure rooms shall have a minimum of one filter bed with a minimum filter efficiency of 80 percent.

- (v) Ventilation systems serving the procedure or recovery rooms shall not be tied in with the soiled holding or work rooms, janitors' closets or locker rooms if the air is to be recirculated in any manner.

- (vi) Air handling duct systems shall not have duct linings.

- (vii) The following general air pressure relationships to adjacent areas and ventilation rates shall apply:

Area	Pressure Relationship	Minimum Air Changes/Hour
Procedure	P	6
Recovery	P	6
Soiled work, Janitor's closet, Toilets,		
Soiled holding	N	10
Clean work or		
Clean holding	P	4

(P = positive pressure N = negative pressure)

(2) Plumbing And Other Piping Systems.

(a) Medical Gas and Vacuum Systems

- (i) Piped-in medical gas and vacuum systems, if installed, shall meet the requirements of NFPA-99-2012, type one system, which is hereby incorporated by reference including subsequent amendments and editions. Copies of NFPA-99-2012 may be purchased from the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101, or accessed electronically free of charge at <http://www.nfpa.org>.

- (ii) If inhalation anesthesia is used in any concentration, the facility must meet the requirements of NFPA 70-2011 and NFPA 99-2012, current editions relating to inhalation anesthesia, which are hereby incorporated by reference including subsequent amendments and editions. Copies of NFPA 70-2011 and NFPA 99-2012 may be purchased from the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101, or accessed electronically free of charge at <http://www.nfpa.org>.

- (b) Lavatories and sinks for use by medical personnel shall have the water supply spout mounted so that its discharge point is a minimum distance of five inches above the rim of the fixture with mixing type fixture valves that can be operated without the use of the hands.
 - (c) Hot water distribution systems shall provide hot water at hand washing and bathing facilities at a minimum temperature of 100 degrees F. and a maximum temperature of 116 degrees F.
 - (d) Floor drains shall not be installed in procedure rooms.
 - (e) Building drainage and waste systems shall be designed to avoid installations in the ceiling directly above procedure rooms.
- (3) Electrical Requirements.
- (a) Procedure and recovery rooms, and paths of egress from these rooms to the outside shall have at a minimum, listed battery backup lighting units of one and one-half hour capability that will automatically provide at least five foot candles of illumination at the floor in the event needed for a utility or local lighting circuit failure.
 - (b) Electrically operated medical equipment necessary for the safety of the patient shall have, at a minimum, battery backup.
 - (c) Receptacles located within six feet of sinks or lavatories shall be ground-fault protected.
 - (d) At least one wired-in, ionization-type smoke detector shall be within 15 feet of each procedure or recovery room entrance.
- (4) Buildings systems and medical equipment shall have preventative maintenance conducted as recommended by the equipment manufacturers' or installers' literature to assure operation in compliance with manufacturer's instructions.

History Note: Authority G.S. 143B-10; S.L. 2023-14, s. 2.4; Emergency Adoption Eff. July 18, 2023.