Electrical Safety Checklist for Health Care Occupancies

The following checklist can assist in evaluating the electrical systems in health care occupancies, and the provisions made for alternate power for essential electrical systems.

Because of the many critical systems that are in operation, the loss of primary electrical power is a serious concern for a health care occupancy. Electrical fires can also cause significant property damage. The following checklist can assist in evaluating the electrical systems in health care occupancies, and the provisions made for alternate power for essential electrical systems. Such occupancies include ambulatory health care occupancies, hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, residential care facilities, and treatment centers.

1. General	Y	N	N/A
Are electrical conductors, outlets, and junction boxes securely fastened in place, covered, and without evidence of overheating?	☐	☐	☐
Are an adequate number of electrical outlets/circuits provided to avoid overloading of circuits?	☐	☐	☐
Is the use of extension cords prohibited?	☐	☐	☐
Are electrical panels and branch circuit disconnects freely accessible at all times?	☐	☐	☐
Is electrical equipment inspected and maintained according to manufacturer's instructions?	☐	☐	☐
Are patient care areas shall be equipped with a sufficient number of outlets to allow for easy access to power, with at least four outlets each general care bed (six for critical care)?	☐	☐	☐
Are electrical cords and connections for appliances inspected before use?	☐	☐	☐
Are electrical appliances used where oxygen-rich or flammable atmospheres, such as operating rooms, liquid and gas storage areas, treatment rooms, patient sleeping rooms, and specialized procedure areas, listed/approved for use in these areas?	☐	☐	☐

2. Life Safety Circuits	Y	N	N/A
Are alternate power sources provided for:			
Exit illumination and signage?	☐	☐	☐
Fire alarms?	☐	☐	☐
Medical gas system alarms?	☐	☐	☐
Hospital emergency communications systems?	☐	☐	☐
Automatic egress doors?	☐	☐	☐

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3. Critical Circuits	Y	N	N/A
Are alternate power sources provided for:			
Illumination and at least one receptacle where anesthetizing gases are used?	☐	☐	☐
Pharmacy and medication preparation or dispensing areas?	☐	☐	☐
Nurse's stations; nurseries; and psychiatric sleeping areas?	☐	☐	☐
Blood, bone, and tissue storage areas?	☐	☐	☐
At least one receptacle for each patient room?	☐	☐	☐
Angiographic, cardiac, and human physiology labs	☐	☐	☐
Coronary care, hemodialysis, intensive care, operative and postoperative rooms, and emergency treatment areas?	☐	☐	☐

4. Equipment Circuits	Y	N	N/A
Are alternate power sources provided for:			
Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems?	☐	☐	☐
Suction and autoclaving equipment?	☐	☐	☐
Elevators?	☐	☐	☐
Kitchen exhaust and smoke control systems?	☐	☐	☐
Fire protection and sump pumps?	☐	☐	☐
3-phase circuits?	☐	☐	☐

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