IEC 60601-2-25

Edition 2.0 2011-10

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

Medical electrical equipment –
Part 2-25: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance of electrocardiographs

Appareils électromédicaux –
Partie 2-25: Exigences particulières pour la sécurité de base et les performances essentielles des électrocardiographes

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –

Part 2-25: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance of electrocardiographs

FOREWORD

1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
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International standard IEC 60601-2-25 has been prepared by IEC subcommittee 62D: Electromedical equipment, of IEC technical committee 62: Electrical equipment in medical practice.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition of IEC 60601-2-25, published in 1993 and the first edition of IEC 60601-2-51, published in 2003. This second edition of IEC 60601-2-25 constitutes a technical revision of both those standards.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
62D/944/FDIS	62D/957/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this particular 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 this 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 PARTICULAR STANDARD OR AS NOTED: SMALL CAPITALS.

In referring to the structure of this standard, the term

– "clause" means one of the seventeen numbered divisions within the table of contents, inclusive of all subdivisions (e.g. Clause 7 includes subclauses 7.1, 7.2, etc.);
– "subclause" means a numbered subdivision of a clause (e.g. 7.1, 7.2 and 7.2.1 are all subclauses of Clause 7).

References to clauses within this standard are preceded by the term "Clause" followed by the clause number. References to subclauses within this particular standard are by number only.

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

– "shall" means that compliance with a requirement or a test is mandatory for compliance with this standard;
– "should" means that compliance with a requirement or a test is recommended but is not mandatory for compliance with this 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 AA.

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.

INTRODUCTION

This particular standard concerns the BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE of ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT. It amends and supplements IEC 60601-1 (third edition, 2005): *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance*, hereinafter referred to as the general standard.

This particular standard now includes the contents of the particular standard IEC 60601-2-51: *Medical electrical equipment – Part 2-51: Particular requirements for the safety, including essential performance, of recording and analysing single channel and multichannel electrocardiographs.*

Updating the particular standards to refer to the third edition of the general standard provided the opportunity to merge the first editions of IEC 60601-2-25 and IEC 60601-2-51 into one standard. Reformatting and technical changes were both made.

The requirements of this particular standard take priority over those of the general standard.

A “General guidance and rationale” for the more important requirements of this particular standard is included in Annex AA. Knowledge of the reasons for these requirements will not only facilitate proper application of the standard but will, in due course, expedite any revision necessitated by changes in clinical practice or as a result of developments in technology. However, Annex AA does not form part of the requirements of this standard.

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –

Part 2-25: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance of electrocardiographs

201.1 Scope, object and related standards

Clause 1 of the general standard[1] applies, except as follows:

201.1.1 * Scope

Replacement:

This particular standard applies to the BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE of ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHS as defined in 201.3.63 intended by themselves or as a part of an ME SYSTEM, for the production of ECG REPORTS for diagnostic purposes, hereinafter referred to as ME EQUIPMENT.

Not included within the scope of this particular standard are:

a) the part of ME EQUIPMENT that provides vectorcardiographic loops;

b) ambulatory electrocardiographic ME EQUIPMENT covered by IEC 60601-2-47 where not intended for obtaining ECG REPORTS for diagnostic purposes;

c) cardiac monitors covered by IEC 60601-2-27 where not intended for obtaining ECG REPORTS for diagnostic purposes.

NOTE 1 For example. ME EQUIPMENT includes:

a) direct-writing ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHS;

b) other ME EQUIPMENT that produce ECG REPORTS for diagnostic purposes, e.g. patient monitors, defibrillators, exercise testing devices;

c) ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHS having a display that is remote from the PATIENT (e.g. via phone lines, networks or storage media). These ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEMS are within the scope of this particular standard excluding transmission media.

NOTE 2 ME EQUIPMENT that provide selection between diagnostic and monitoring functions shall meet the requirements of the appropriate standard when configured for that function.

ME EQUIPMENT intended for use under extreme or uncontrolled environmental conditions outside the hospital environment or physician's office, such as in ambulances and air transport, shall comply with this particular standard. Additional standards may apply to ME EQUIPMENT for those environments of use.

201.1.2 Object

Replacement:

The object of this particular standard is to establish particular requirements for BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE of ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHS as defined in 201.3.63.

201.1.3 Collateral standards

Addition:

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[1] The general standard is IEC 60601-1:2005, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance.*

This particular standard refers to those applicable collateral standards that are listed in Clause 2 of the general standard and Clause 201.2 of this particular standard.

IEC 60601-1-2 applies as modified in Clause 202. IEC 60601-1-3, IEC 60601-1-8 and IEC 60601-1-10 do not apply. All other published collateral standards in the IEC 60601-1 series apply as published

201.1.4 Particular standards

Replacement:

In the IEC 60601 series, particular standards may modify, replace or delete requirements contained in the general standard and collateral standards as appropriate for the particular ME EQUIPMENT under consideration, and may add other BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements.

A requirement of a particular standard takes priority over the general standard.

For brevity, IEC 60601-1 is referred to in this particular standard as the general standard. Collateral standards are referred to by their document number.

The numbering of clauses and subclauses of this particular standard corresponds to that of the general standard with the prefix "201" (e.g. 201.1 in this standard addresses the content of Clause 1 of the general standard) or applicable collateral standard with the prefix "20x" where x is the final digit(s) of the collateral standard document number (e.g. 202.4 in this particular standard addresses the content of Clause 4 of the 60601-1-2 collateral standard, etc.). The changes to the text of the general standard are specified by the use of the following words:

"Replacement" means that the clause or subclause of the general standard or applicable collateral standard is replaced completely by the text of this particular standard.

"Addition" means that the text of this particular standard is additional to the requirements of the general standard or applicable collateral standard.

"Amendment" means that the clause or subclause of the general standard or applicable collateral standard is amended as indicated by the text of this particular standard.

Subclauses, figures or tables which are additional to those of the general standard are numbered starting from 201.101. However due to the fact that definitions in the general standard are numbered 3.1 through 3.139, additional definitions in this standard are numbered beginning from 201.3.201. Additional annexes are lettered AA, BB, etc., and additional items aa), bb), etc.

Subclauses, figures or tables which are additional to those of a collateral standard are numbered starting from 20x, where "x" is the number of the collateral standard, e.g. 202 for IEC 60601-1-2, etc.

The term "this standard" is used to make reference to the general standard, any applicable collateral standards and this particular standard taken together.

Where there is no corresponding clause or subclause in this particular standard, the clause or subclause of the general standard or applicable collateral standard, although possibly not relevant, applies without modification; where it is intended that any part of the general standard or applicable collateral standard, although possibly relevant, is not to be applied, a statement to that effect is given in this particular standard.

201.2 Normative references

NOTE Informative references are listed in the bibliography beginning on page 94.

Clause 2 of the general standard applies, except as follows:

Replacement:

IEC 60601-1-2:2007, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-2: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance – Collateral standard: Electromagnetic compatibility – Requirements and tests*

Addition:

IEC 60601-2-2:2009, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 2-2: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance of high frequency surgical equipment and high frequency surgical accessories*

201.3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60601-1:2005 apply, except as follows:

201.3.63
MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

Replacement:

ELECTROCARDIOGRAPH
ME EQUIPMENT
equipment and associated LEAD WIRES and ELECTRODES intended for the production of ECG REPORTS for diagnostic purposes

Addition:

201.3.201
CENTRAL TERMINAL ACCORDING TO WILSON
CT
average potential of the R (RA), L (LA) and F (LL) ELECTRODES

201.3.202
CHANNEL
hardware and/or software selection of a particular electrocardiographic LEAD for purposes of display, recording, or transmission

201.3.203
DC OFFSET VOLTAGE
d.c. voltage appearing on ELECTRODES with respect to the NEUTRAL ELECTRODE resulting from ELECTRODE-skin voltages

201.3.204
COMMON MODE REJECTION
ability of the ELECTROCARDIOGRAPH including the PATIENT CABLE and ELECTRODES, high frequency FILTERS, protection networks, LEAD networks, amplifier input, etc., to discriminate between signals with differences between amplifier inputs (differential signal) and signals common to amplifier inputs (common signal), in the presence of ELECTRODE impedance imbalance

201.3.205
ECG REPORT
a prensentation (e.g. a hard copy print-out or a display) of an ELECTROCARDIOGRAM with associated data such as the date and time that ELECTROCARDIOGRAM was acquired, PATIENT identification etc.

201.3.206
EFFECTIVE RECORDING WIDTH
width of the paper recording within which the signal of a CHANNEL can be recorded according to this particular standard

201.3.207
ELECTROCARDIOGRAM
ECG
graphical presentation of one or more LEADS over time

201.3.208
ELECTRODE
sensor in contact with a specified part of the body that is used to detect electrical activity

201.3.209
FILTER
means, realized in hardware, firmware or software, to attenuate unwanted components in the signal being recorded, e.g. muscle action voltages in an ECG signal

201.3.210
GAIN
ratio of the amplitude of the output signal to the amplitude of the input signal

NOTE GAIN is expressed in mm/mV.

201.3.211
LEAD
voltage between ELECTRODES

201.3.212
LEAD WIRE
cable connected between ELECTRODE and either a PATIENT CABLE or the ME EQUIPMENT

201.3.213
NEUTRAL ELECTRODE
reference point for differential amplifiers and/or interference suppression circuits, not intended to be used to calculate any LEAD

201.3.214
NOISE
unwanted signals of any frequency present in the ELECTROCARDIOGRAM

201.3.215
NORMAL GAIN
GAIN of 10 mm/mV

201.3.216
PATIENT CABLE
multiwire cable used to connect the LEAD WIRES to the ELECTROCARDIOGRAPH

201.4 General requirements

Clause 4 of the general standard applies, except as follows:

201.4.3 ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE

Addition:

201.4.3.101 Additional ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements

Table 201.101 identifies essential performance requirements for electrocardiographs and the subclauses in which they are found.

Table 201.101 – ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements

Requirement	Subclause
Defibrillation protection	201.8.5.5.1
ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE of ME EQUIPMENT	201.12.1.101
FILTERS (including line frequency interfeerence FILTERS)	201.12.4.105.3
Electrostatic discharge	202.6.2.2.1
Electric fast transients and bursts	202.6.2.4.1
Conducted disturbances	202.6.2.6.1
Electrosurgery interference	202.6.2.101

201.5 General requirements for testing of ME EQUIPMENT

Clause 5 of the general standard applies, except as follows:

201.5.3 * Ambient temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure

Addition:

aa) Tests are performed within a relative humidity range of 25 % to 95 % (without condensation).

201.5.4 Other conditions

Addition:

aa) Unless otherwise stated, tests shall be carried out with the ACCESSORIES and the recording materials specified by the MANUFACTURER.

bb) For ME EQUIPMENT with an INTERNAL ELECTRICAL POWER SOURCE, if the test result is affected by the INTERNAL ELECTRICAL POWER SOURCE voltage, then the test shall be performed using the least favourable INTERNAL ELECTRICAL POWER SOURCE voltage specified by the MANUFACTURER. If necessary for the purpose of conducting the test, an external battery or d.c. power supply may be used to provide the necessary test voltage.

cc) The values used in test circuits, unless otherwise specified, shall have at least an accuracy as given below:

- resistors: ±1 %;
- capacitors: ±10 %;
- inductors: ±10 %;
- test voltages: ±1 %

201.5.8 * Sequence of tests

Amendment:

Tests called for in 201.8.5.5.1 of this particular standard shall be carried out prior to the LEAKAGE CURRENT and dielectric strength tests of clauses B.20 and B.22 of Annex B of the general standard.

201.6 Classification of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS

Clause 6 of the general standard applies, except as follows:

201.6.2 Protection against electric shock

Replacement of the last paragraph:

APPLIED PARTS shall be classified as TYPE CF APPLIED PARTS (see 7.2.10 and 8.3 of the general standard). APPLIED PARTS shall be classified as DEFIBRILLATION-PROOF APPLIED PARTS (see 8.5.5 of the general standard).

201.6.6 Mode of operation

Replacement:

ME EQUIPMENT shall be classified for CONTINUOUS OPERATION.

201.7 ME EQUIPMENT identification, marking and documents

Clause 7 of the general standard applies, except as follows:

201.7.4 Making of controls and instruments

Additional subclause:

201.7.4.101 * PATIENT CABLE and PATIENT CABLE to ME EQUIPMENT connector

In order to minimize the possibility of incorrect connections, the PATIENT CABLE shall be permanently marked with one of the identifiers (ELECTRODE identifier and/or colour code) specified in Table 201.102;

Detachable LEAD WIRES shall be permanently marked on both ends with the identifiers (ELECTRODE identifier and/or colour code) specified in Table 201.102. For addditional markings, see Annex BB.

The PATIENT CABLE to ME EQUIPMENT connector shall be constructed or marked so that the OPERATOR can identify the ME EQUIPMENT to which the PATIENT CABLE should be connected.