IEC 60601-2-2

Edition 6.0 2017-03

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

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

Appareils électromédicaux –
Partie 2-2: Exigences particulières pour la sécurité de base et les performances essentielles des appareils d'électrochirurgie à courant haute fréquence et des accessoires d'électrochirurgie à courant haute fréquence

IEC 60601-2-2:2017-03(en-fr)

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INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

COMMISSION
ELECTROTECHNIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

ICS 11.040.30

ISBN 978-2-8322-4008-3

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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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

FOREWORD

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International standard IEC 60601-2-2 has been prepared by IEC subcommittee 62D: Electromedical equipment, of IEC technical committee 62: Electrical equipment in medical practice.

This sixth edition cancels and replaces the fifth edition published in 2009. This edition constitutes a technical revision. This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

– refinement and additions to the defined terms;

– additional separation of the requirements for HF surgical equipment and HF surgical accessories;

– a new requirement for adult neutral electrodes to be contact quality monitoring neutral electrodes;

– new requirements for devices that have or use a high current mode.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
62D/1427/FDIS	62D/1442/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 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 Clause 7 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.

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 website 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

The minimum safety requirements specified in this particular standard are considered to provide for a practical degree of safety in the operation of HIGH FREQUENCY SURGICAL EQUIPMENT.

This particular standard amends and supplements IEC 60601-1:2005 and Amendment 1:2012, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance*, hereinafter referred to as the general standard (see 201.1.4).

The requirements are followed by specifications for the relevant tests.

A "Particular guidance and rationale" section giving some explanatory notes, where appropriate, about the more important requirements is included in Annex AA.

Clauses or subclauses for which there are explanatory notes in Annex AA are marked with an asterisk (*).

It is considered that a knowledge of the reasons for these requirements will not only facilitate the 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, this annex does not form part of the requirements of this document.

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

201.1 Scope, object and related standards

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

201.1.1 * Scope

Replacement:

This part of IEC 60601 applies to the BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE of HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT and HF SURGICAL ACCESSORIES as defined in 201.3.224 and 201.3.223.

HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT having a RATED OUTPUT POWER not exceeding 50 W (for example for micro-COAGULATION, or for use in dentistry or ophthalmology) is exempt from certain of the requirements of this particular standard. These exemptions are indicated in the relevant requirements.

201.1.2 Object

Replacement:

The object of this particular standard is to establish particular BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements for HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT and HF SURGICAL ACCESSORIES as defined in 201.3.224 and 201.3.223.

201.1.3 Collateral standards

Addition:

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 60601-1-2:2014 and IEC 60601-1-8:2006 apply as modified in Clauses 202 and 208 respectively. IEC 60601-1-3, IEC 60601-1-10 and IEC 60601-1-11 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.

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[1] The general standard is IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance*.

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 document 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 IEC 60601-1-2 collateral standard, 203.4 in this particular standard addresses the content of Clause 4 of the IEC 60601-1-3 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 3.147, additional definitions in this document 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, 203 for IEC 60601-1-3, etc.

The term "this document" 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 87.

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

Replacement:

IEC 60601-1-2:2014, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-2: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance – Collateral Standard: Electromagnetic disturbances – Requirements and tests*

IEC 60601-1-8:2006, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-8: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance – Collateral Standard: General requirements, tests and guidance for alarm systems in medical electrical equipment and medical electrical systems*

Addition:

CISPR 11:2015, *Industrial, scientific and medical equipment – Radio-frequency disturbance characteristics – Limits and methods of measurement*

IEC 61000-4-3:2006, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-3: Testing and measurement techniques – Radiated, radio-frequency electromagnetic field immunity test*

IEC 61000-4-6:2013, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-6: Testing and measurement techniques – Immunity to conducted disturbances, induced by radio-frequency fields*

201.3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60601-1 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at http://www.electropedia.org/
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at http://www.iso.org/obp

Replace NOTE 1 with the following:

NOTE 1 Where the terms "voltage" and "current" are used in this document, they mean the RMS values of an alternating, direct or composite voltage or current averaged over 1 s unless stated otherwise.

Addition:

201.3.201
ACTIVE ACCESSORY
HF SURGICAL ACCESSORY intended for manipulation by the OPERATOR to produce an effect by electrical conduction adjacent to the ACTIVE ELECTRODE at the intended site on the PATIENT, generally comprising an ACTIVE HANDLE, the cord of an ACTIVE ACCESSORY, ACTIVE CONNECTOR and ACTIVE ELECTRODE

201.3.202
ACTIVE CONNECTOR
part of an ACTIVE ACCESSORY intended for connection to an ACTIVE OUTPUT TERMINAL, which may include additional terminals for connection of a FINGERSWITCH to a SWITCH SENSOR

201.3.203
ACTIVE ELECTRODE
part of an ACTIVE ACCESSORY extending from the ACTIVE HANDLE to the surgical site and intended to pass HF current into body tissue

201.3.204
ACTIVE ELECTRODE INSULATION
electrical insulation material affixed to part of an ACTIVE ELECTRODE intended to prevent unintended injury to PATIENT tissue or the OPERATOR

201.3.205
ACTIVE HANDLE
part of an ACTIVE ACCESSORY intended to be held by the OPERATOR

201.3.206
ACTIVE OUTPUT TERMINAL
part of HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT or ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT intended for connection to an ACTIVE ACCESSORY and for delivery of HF current thereto

Note 1 to entry: An ACTIVE CONNECTOR is that which plugs into an ACTIVE OUTPUT TERMINAL.

Note 2 to entry: See Figure AA.1.

201.3.207
***ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT**
MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT other than HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT that may be electrically connected to the PATIENT circuit

201.3.208
***BIPOLAR**
method of applying HF current to a PATIENT between two or more ACTIVE ELECTRODES without the need for a separately connected NEUTRAL ELECTRODE (or the need to use the PATIENT'S body capacitance to earth) in which an effect is intended in tissue near one or more ACTIVE ELECTRODES

Note 1 to entry: The BIPOLAR method includes devices energizing pairs of ACTIVE ELECTRODES as well as devices energizing groups of ACTIVE ELECTRODES where the HF current source and return may have different numbers of electrodes.

Note 2 to entry: See Figure AA.1 and Figure AA.3.

201.3.209
BIPOLAR ACCESSORY
ACTIVE ACCESSORY comprising two or more ACTIVE ELECTRODES on the same support, so constructed that, when energized, the HF current flows mainly amongst these electrodes

201.3.210
COAGULATION
use of HF current to induce a thermal effect, e.g. to control or prevent bleeding, induce tissue destruction, or induce tissue shrinkage

Note 1 to entry: COAGULATION may take the form of contact or non-contact COAGULATION.

Note 2 to entry: FULGURATION, desiccation, spray, forced, swift, soft and argon beam (plasma) COAGULATION are all names of COAGULATION types.

201.3.211
CONTACT QUALITY MONITOR
CQM
circuit in HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT or ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT intended for connection to a MONITORING NE providing an alarm in the event that NEUTRAL ELECTRODE (NE) contact with the PATIENT becomes insufficient

Note 1 to entry: CONTACT QUALITY MONITOR is functional only when used with a MONITORING NE.

201.3.212
CONTINUITY MONITOR
circuit in HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT or ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT intended for connection to an NE providing an alarm in the event of electrical discontinuity in the NE cable or its connections

201.3.213
***CREST FACTOR**
dimensionless value equal to the peak output voltage divided by the RMS voltage as measured at the output of HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT in an open circuit condition

Note 1 to entry: Specific information on the correct way to make the measurements needed to calculate this value may be found in Annex AA.

201.3.214
***CUTTING**
division of body tissue caused by the passage of HIGH FREQUENCY current of high current density at the ACTIVE ELECTRODE (S)

201.3.215
***EARTH REFERENCED PATIENT CIRCUIT**
PATIENT circuit which includes components, such as capacitors, installed to provide a low-impedance path to earth for HF currents

201.3.216
FINGERSWITCH
device generally included with an ACTIVE ACCESSORY which, when manipulated by the OPERATOR, enables HF output to be produced and, when released disables HF output

Note 1 to entry: Requirements for similar switches intended to perform functions other than activation of HF output are under consideration.

201.3.217
***FULGURATION**
the use of HF current to produce an effect on a tissue surface by electrical sparks from an ACTIVE ELECTRODE that is not in physical contact with the tissue

201.3.218
***HEATING FACTOR**
a value equal to $I^2 \times t$ where I is the MONOPOLAR current in amperes and t is the duration of the current flow in s

Note 1 to entry: The HEATING FACTOR is expressed as A^2s (amperes squared seconds).

Note 2 to entry: See subclause 201.15.101.5 in Annex AA for additional information.

201.3.219
***HIGH CURRENT MODE**
MONOPOLAR output mode whose INTENDED USE (MAXIMUM OUTPUT CURRENT and maximum DUTY CYCLE) results in a HEATING FACTOR of greater than 30 A^2s in any 60 s period

201.3.220
***HIGH FREQUENCY**
HF
frequencies less than 5 MHz and generally greater than 200 kHz

201.3.221
HF ISOLATED PATIENT CIRCUIT
HF PATIENT CIRCUIT where there are no components installed to provide a low-impedance path to earth for HF currents

201.3.222
HF PATIENT CIRCUIT
any electrical circuit which contains one or more PATIENT CONNECTIONS including all conductive parts of the HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT and ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT circuits through which HF current is intended to flow between the ME EQUIPMENT and the PATIENT in NORMAL CONDITION or SINGLE FAULT CONDITION

201.3.223
HF SURGICAL ACCESSORY
ACCESSORY intended to conduct, supplement or monitor HF energy applied to the PATIENT from HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT

Note 1 to entry: HF SURGICAL ACCESSORIES include ACTIVE ACCESSORIES, including cords and connectors for attachment to HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT, NEUTRAL ELECTRODES, as well as other ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT intended for connection to the HF surgical PATIENT circuit. See Figure AA.1.

Note 2 to entry: Not all accessories used with HF surgical equipment are HF surgical accessories.

201.3.224
HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT
MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT which generates HIGH FREQUENCY currents intended for the performance of surgical tasks, such as the CUTTING or COAGULATION of biological tissue by means of these HIGH FREQUENCY currents

Note 1 to entry: HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT is also variously known as surgical diathermy, electrosurgical equipment, electrosurgical generator, RF generator or HF generator.

Note 2 to entry: A footswitch is an example of an associated ACCESSORY that is part of HF SURGICAL EQUIPMENT. See Figure AA.1.

201.3.225
***HF SURGICAL MODE**
any of a number of OPERATOR selectable HF output characteristics intended to provide a specific effect at a connected ACTIVE ACCESSORY, such as CUTTING, COAGULATION and the like

Note 1 to entry: Each available HF SURGICAL MODE may be provided with an OPERATOR-adjustable output control to set the desired intensity or speed of the effect.

201.3.226
***MAXIMUM OUTPUT CURRENT**
for each available HF SURGICAL MODE, the magnitude of the maximum possible HF output current during INTENDED USE

201.3.227
***MAXIMUM OUTPUT VOLTAGE**
for each available HF SURGICAL MODE, the magnitude of the maximum possible peak HF output voltage appearing between PATIENT circuit connections

201.3.228
***MONITORING NE**
NE intended for use with a CONTACT QUALITY MONITOR

Note 1 to entry: A MONITORING NEUTRAL ELECTRODE is also known as a split plate, dual plate, dual foil electrode or CQM electrode.

201.3.229
***MONOPOLAR**
method of applying HF output current to a PATIENT via an ACTIVE ELECTRODE and returning via a separate PATIENT-connected NEUTRAL ELECTRODE (or via the PATIENT'S body capacitance to earth) in which an effect is intended only in tissue at or near the ACTIVE ELECTRODE

Note 1 to entry: See Figures AA.1 and AA.2.

201.3.230
NEUTRAL ELECTRODE
NE
electrode intended to provide an electrical return path for the MONOPOLAR application of HIGH FREQUENCY current with such a low current density in the PATIENT'S tissue that effects such as excessive rise in temperature or unwanted burns are avoided

Note 1 to entry: The NEUTRAL ELECTRODE is also known as plate, plate electrode, electrosurgical pad, passive, return or dispersive electrode.

Note 2 to entry: To keep the current density low enough to prevent unwanted heating, the NEUTRAL ELECTRODE needs to have a large enough area.