INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

IEC 60601-2-46

First edition
1998-06

Medical electrical equipment –

Part 2-46: Particular requirements for the safety of operating tables

Appareils électromédicaux –

Partie 2-46: Règles particulières de sécurité pour les tables d'opération

Reference number
IEC 60601-2-46:1998(E)

Numbering

As from 1 January 1997 all IEC publications are issued with a designation in the 60000 series.

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For graphical symbols, and letter symbols and signs approved by the IEC for general use, readers are referred to publications IEC 60027: *Letter symbols to be used in electrical technology*, IEC 60417: *Graphical symbols for use on equipment. Index, survey and compilation of the single sheets* and IEC 60617: *Graphical symbols for diagrams*.

* See web site address on title page.

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Commission Electrotechnique Internationale
International Electrotechnical Commission
Международная Электротехническая Комиссия

PRICE CODE R

For price, see current catalogue

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –
Part 2-46: Particular requirements for the safety of operating tables

FOREWORD

1) The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of the 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, the IEC publishes International Standards. 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. The IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
2) The formal decisions or agreements of the IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested National Committees.
3) The documents produced have the form of recommendations for international use and are published in the form of standards, technical reports or guides and they are accepted by the National Committees in that sense.
4) In order to promote international unification, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC International Standards transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional standards. Any divergence between the IEC Standard and the corresponding national or regional standard shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
5) The IEC provides no marking procedure to indicate its approval and cannot be rendered responsible for any equipment declared to be in conformity with one of its standards.
6) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. The IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 60601-2-46 has been prepared by subcommittee 62D: Electromedical equipment, of IEC technical committee 62: Electrical equipment in medical practice, and CENELEC.

The text of this Particular Standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
62D/276/FDIS	62D/290/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.

Annex AA is for information only.

In this Particular Standard, the following print types are used:

– requirements, compliance with which can be tested, and definitions: in roman type;
– notes, explanations, advice, introductions, general statements, exceptions and references: in smaller type;
– *test specifications: in italic type*.
– TERMS USED THROUGHOUT THIS PARTICULAR STANDARD WHICH HAVE BEEN DEFINED IN CLAUSE 2 AND IN IEC 60601-1: SMALL CAPITALS.

A bilingual version of this standard may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

This Particular Standard amends and supplements IEC 60601-1 (second edition, 1988): *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1: General requirements for safety*, as amended by its amendment 1 (1991) and its amendment 2 (1995), hereinafter referred to as the General Standard (see 1.3).

This Particular Standard is necessary because of the special attention which has to be given to features of OPERATING TABLES which are used together with OTHER MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT.

Additional requirements for safety, beyond those stated in the General Standard, are specified.

An asterisk (*) beside a clause or subclause number indicates that some explanatory notes are given in annex AA at the end of this Particular Standard.

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –
Part 2-46: Particular requirements for the safety of operating tables

Section one – General

The clauses and subclauses of this section of the General Standard apply except as follows:

1 Scope and object

This clause of the General Standard applies, except as follows:

1.1 Scope

Addition:

This Particular Standard specifies safety requirements for OPERATING TABLES, as defined in 2.12.101, whether or not having electrical parts, including TRANSPORTERS, as defined in 2.12.104, used for the transportation of the table top to or from the base or pedestal of an OPERATING TABLE with detachable table top.

This Particular Standard does not apply to

– dental patient chairs;
– examination chairs and couches;
– patient-supporting systems of diagnostic and therapeutic devices;
– operating table heating blankets;
– patient transfer equipment;
– delivery tables and beds;
– hospital beds;
– field tables.

1.3 Particular Standards

Addition:

This Particular Standard refers to IEC 60601-1 (1988*): Medical electrical equipment – Part 1: General requirements for safety* as amended by its amendments 1 (1991) and 2 (1995).

For brevity, part 1 is referred to in this Particular Standard either as the "General Standard" or as the "General Requirements(s)".

The numbering of sections, clauses and subclauses of this Particular Standard corresponds to that of the General Standard. 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 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.

"Amendment" means that the clause or subclause of the General Standard is amended as indicated by the text of this Particular Standard.

Subclauses or figures which are additional to those of the General Standard are numbered starting from 101, additional annexes are lettered AA, BB, etc., and additional items *aa), bb),* etc.

The term "this Standard" is used to make reference to the General Standard and this Particular Standard taken together.

Where there is no corresponding section, clause or subclause in this Particular Standard, the section, clause or subclause of the General Standard, although possibly not relevant, applies without modification; where it is intended that any part of the General Standard, although possibly relevant, is not to be applied, a statement to that effect is given in this Particular Standard.

The requirements of this Particular Standard take priority over those of the General Standard.

An asterisk (*) beside a clause or subclause number indicates that some explanatory notes are given in the "General guidance and rationale" section at the end of this Particular Standard.

2 Terminology and definitions

This clause of the General Standard applies, except as follows:

Additional definitions:

2.12.101
OPERATING TABLE (hereinafter also referred to as EQUIPMENT)
A PATIENT-supporting table for general, surgical/medical procedures

2.12.102
MOBILE OPERATING TABLE
An OPERATING TABLE intended to be moved from one location to another

2.12.103
NORMAL POSITION
The position of the OPERATING TABLE top with all sections set in the horizontal position

2.12.104
TRANSPORTER
A device intended for the transportation of the table top, with or without a PATIENT in place, to or from the base or pedestal of an OPERATING TABLE, or the transportation of the table top complete with the base, again with or without the PATIENT in place

NOTE – This does not include devices intended to simply transport the PATIENT from one location to another without the transfer of parts associated with an OPERATING TABLE.

4 General requirements for tests

This clause of the General Standard applies, except as follows:

Additional subclause:

4.6 Other conditions

aa) ACCESSORIES

OPERATING TABLES shall be fitted where they exist with at least the following ACCESSORIES:

a) anaesthetic screen;

b) arm rest.

*5 Classification

This clause of the General Standard applies.

6 Identification, marking and documents

This clause of the General Standard applies, except as follows:

6.1 Marking on the outside of EQUIPMENT or EQUIPMENT parts

Addition:

aa) Concise instructions for use of the OPERATING TABLE in an emergency, for example failure of power supply, shall be provided on the outside of the EQUIPMENT or in a prominent position in the operating room.

6.8 ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS

6.8.2 Instructions for use

Addition:

aa) Instructions for use shall provide warnings referring to the manufacturers' instructions for high-frequency surgical equipment, cardiac defibrillators and cardiac defibrillator-monitors.

6.8.3 Technical description

a) General

Addition:

For PERMANENTLY INSTALLED OPERATING TABLES, the technical description shall include the following:

– information on the method of provision of an antistatic leakage path;

– if completion of this path depends upon installation on an antistatic floor, an instruction that the resistances from the APPLIED PARTS of the table to protective earth have to be measured after installation.