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### Medical electrical equipment —

Part 2-74:

### Particular requirements for basic safety and essential performance of respiratory humidifying equipment

*Appareils électromédicaux —*

*Partie 2-74: Exigences particulières pour la sécurité de base et les performances essentielles des équipements d'humidification respiratoire*

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b7a7ac7d3a58/iso-dis-80601-2-74](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/cf24a4f5-493e-4a79-88a9-b7a7ac7d3a58/iso-dis-80601-2-74)

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)) or the IEC list of patent declarations received (see <http://patents.iec.ch>).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared jointly by Technical Committee ISO/TC 121, *Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Respiratory devices and related equipment used for patient care*, and Technical Committee IEC/TC 62, *Electrical equipment in medical practice*, Subcommittee SC D, *Electromedical equipment*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 215, *Respiratory and anaesthetic equipment*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This first second of ISO 80601-2-74 cancels and replaces the first edition of ISO 80601-2-74.

The most significant changes are the following additions:

- harmonization with the 'A2 project' of the general standard;
- harmonization with ISO 20417; and
- addition of category 3 for high-flow equipment.

A list of all parts in the ISO 80601 series can be found on the ISO website.

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Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

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## Introduction

This document specifies requirements for respiratory humidifying equipment intended for use on *patients* in *home healthcare environment* and in healthcare facilities. *Humidifiers* are used to raise the water content of gases delivered to *patients*. Gases available for medical use do not contain sufficient moisture and can damage or irritate the respiratory tract or desiccate secretions of *patients* whose upper airways have been bypassed. Inadequate humidity at the *patient-connection port* can cause drying of the upper airway, or desiccation of tracheo-bronchial secretions in the tracheal or tracheostomy tube, which can cause narrowing or even obstruction of the airway<sup>[23] [35]</sup>. Heat is employed to increase the water output of the *humidifier*.

In addition, many *humidifiers* utilize heated *breathing tubes* in order to increase operating efficiency and reduce water loss (condensate) as well as heat loss in the *breathing tube*. *Ventilator* and anaesthesia *breathing tubes* in common use might not withstand the heat generated by *humidifiers* and *breathing tube* heating mechanisms.

Many *humidifier manufacturers* use off-the-shelf electrical connectors for their electrically heated *breathing tubes*. However, since different *manufacturers* have used the same electrical connector for different power outputs, electrically heated *breathing tubes* can be physically, but not electrically, interchangeable. Use of improper electrically heated *breathing tubes* has caused overheating, circuit melting, *patient* and *operator* burns and fires. It was not found practical to specify the interface requirements for electrical connectors to ensure compatibility between *humidifiers* and *breathing tubes* produced by different *manufacturers*.

Since the safe use of a *humidifier* depends on the interaction of the *humidifier* with its many *accessories*, this document sets total system performance requirements up to the *patient-connection port*. These requirements are applicable to *accessories* such as *breathing tubes* (both heated and non-heated), temperature sensors and equipment intended to control the environment within these *breathing tubes*.

Humidification can also be used by respiratory support *ME equipment* to increase *patient* comfort and compliance with the therapy. Examples are obstructive sleep apnoea and nasal high-flow therapy equipment. The *humidification output* requirements of such *ME equipment* is less demanding as the *patient's* upper airway is not bypassed.

*Humidifiers* are commonly used with air and air-oxygen mixtures and any *humidifier* should be able to operate with these gases. Care should be taken if using other gas mixes such as helium-oxygen mixtures, as the different physical and thermal properties of these gases may disturb the operation of the *humidifier*.

In this document, the following print types are used:

- Requirements and definitions: roman type;
- *Test specifications and terms defined in Clause 3 of the general standard, in this document or as noted: 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;

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In referring to the structure of this document, the term

- “clause” means one of the five numbered divisions within the table of contents, inclusive of all subdivisions (e.g. Clause 201 includes subclauses 201.7, 201.8, etc.);
- “subclause” means a numbered subdivision of a clause (e.g. 201.7, 201.8 and 201.9 are all subclauses of Clause 201).

References to clauses within this document are preceded by the term “Clause” followed by the clause number. References to subclauses within this document are by number only.

In this document, the conjunctive “or” is used as an “inclusive or” so a statement is true if any combination of the conditions is true.

For the purposes of this document, the auxiliary verb:

- “shall” means that conformance with a requirement or a test is mandatory for conformance with this document;
- “should” means that conformance with a requirement or a test is recommended but is not mandatory for conformance with this document;
- “may” is used to describe permission (e.g. a permissible way to achieve conformance with a requirement or test);
- “can” is used to describe a possibility or capability; and;
- “must” is used to express an external constraint.

Annex C contains a guide to the *marking* and labelling requirements in this document.

Annex D contains a summary of the *symbols* referenced in this document.

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.



# 1 Medical electrical equipment —

## 2 Part 2-74: Particular requirements for basic safety and 3 essential performance of respiratory humidifying equipment

### 4 201.1 Scope, object and related standards

5 IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020<sup>1</sup>, Clause 1 applies, except as follows.

6 NOTE The general standard is IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020.

#### 7 201.1.1 \* Scope

8 *Replacement:*

9 This document applies to the *basic safety* and *essential performance* of a *humidifier*, also  
10 hereafter referred to as *ME equipment*, in combination with its *accessories*, the combination also  
11 hereafter referred to as *ME system*.

12 This document is also applicable to those *accessories* intended by their *manufacturer* to be  
13 connected to a *humidifier* where the characteristics of those *accessories* can affect the *basic safety*  
14 or *essential performance* of the *humidifier*.

15 EXAMPLE 1 Heated *breathing tubes* (heated-wire *breathing tubes*) or *ME equipment* intended to  
16 control these heated *breathing tubes* (heated *breathing tube* controllers).

17 NOTE 1 Heated *breathing tubes* and their controllers are *ME equipment* and are subject to the  
18 requirements of IEC 60601-1.

19 NOTE 2 ISO 5367 specifies other safety and performance requirements for *breathing tubes*.

20 This document includes requirements for the different medical uses of humidification, such as  
21 invasive ventilation, non-invasive ventilation, nasal high-flow therapy, and obstructive sleep  
22 apnoea therapy, as well as humidification therapy for tracheostomy *patients*.

23 NOTE 3 A *humidifier* can be integrated into other equipment. When this is the case, the requirements of  
24 the other equipment also apply to the *humidifier*.

25 EXAMPLE 2 Heated *humidifier* incorporated into a critical care *ventilator* where ISO 80601-2-12<sup>[10]</sup>  
26 also applies.

27 EXAMPLE 3 Heated *humidifier* incorporated into a homecare *ventilator* for dependent *patients* where  
28 ISO 80601-2-72<sup>[12]</sup> also applies.

29 EXAMPLE 4 Heated *humidifier* incorporated into sleep apnoea therapy equipment where  
30 ISO 80601-2-70<sup>[11]</sup> also applies.

<sup>1</sup> The general standard is IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance*.

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31 EXAMPLE 5 Heated *humidifier* incorporated into respiratory high-flow therapy equipment where  
32 ISO 80601-2-90<sup>[11]</sup> also applies.

33 This document also includes requirements for an *active HME (heat and moisture exchanger)*,  
34 *ME equipment* which actively adds heat and moisture to increase the humidity level of the gas  
35 delivered from the *HME* to the *patient*. This document is not applicable to a passive *HME*, which  
36 returns a portion of the expired moisture and heat of the *patient* to the respiratory tract during  
37 inspiration without adding heat or moisture.

38 NOTE 4 ISO 9360-1 and ISO 9360-2<sup>[4]</sup> specify the safety and performance requirements for a passive  
39 *HME*.

40 NOTE 5 If a clause or subclause is specifically intended to be applicable to *ME equipment* only, or to  
41 *ME systems* only, the title and content of that clause or subclause will say so. If that is not the case, the  
42 clause or subclause applies both to *ME equipment* and to *ME systems*, as relevant.

43 *Hazards* inherent in the intended physiological function of *ME equipment* or *ME systems* within  
44 the scope of this document are not covered by specific requirements in this document except in  
45 IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012, 7.2.13 and 8.4.1.

46 NOTE 6 Additional information can be found in IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012, 4.2.

47 This document does not specify the requirements for cold pass-over or cold bubble-through  
48 humidification devices, the requirements for which are given in ISO 20789<sup>[6]</sup>.

49 This document is not applicable to equipment commonly referred to as “room humidifiers” or  
50 humidifiers used in heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, or *humidifiers*  
51 incorporated into infant incubators.

52 This document is not applicable to nebulizers used for the delivery of drugs to *patients*.

53 NOTE 7 ISO 27427<sup>[7]</sup> specifies the safety and performance requirements for nebulizers.

### 54 **201.1.2 Object**

55 *Replacement:*

56 The object of this document is to establish particular *basic safety* and *essential performance*  
57 requirements for a *humidifier*, as defined in 201.3.209, and its *accessories*.

58 *Accessories* are included because the combination of the *humidifier* and the *accessories* needs to  
59 be adequately safe. *Accessories* can have a significant impact on the *basic safety* or *essential*  
60 *performance* of a *humidifier*.

61 NOTE 1 This document has been prepared to address the relevant *essential principles* and labelling  
62 guidances of the International Medical Devices Regulators Forum (IMDRF) as indicated in Annex HH.

63 NOTE 2 This document has been prepared to address the relevant *essential principles of safety and*  
64 *performance* of ISO 16142-1:2016 as indicated in Annex II.

65 NOTE 3 This document has been prepared to address the relevant general safety and performance  
66 requirements of European regulation (EU) 2017/745 as indicated in Annex JJ.

### 67 **201.1.3 Collateral standards**

68 *Addition (add after existing text):*

69 This document refers to those applicable collateral standards that are listed in Clause 2 of the  
70 general standard<sup>2</sup> and in 201.2 of this document.

71 IEC 60601-1-2:2014+AMD1:2020, IEC 60601-1-6:2010+AMD1:2013+AMD2:2020,  
72 IEC 60601-1-8:2006+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020 and IEC 60601-1-11:2015+AMD1:2020 apply as  
73 modified in Clauses 202, 206, 208 and 211, respectively. IEC 60601-1-3:2008+AMD1:2013 does  
74 not apply. All other published collateral standards in the IEC 60601-1 series apply as published.

#### 75 **201.1.4 Particular standards**

76 *Replacement:*

77 In the IEC 60601 series, particular standards define *basic safety* and *essential performance*  
78 requirements, and may modify, replace or delete requirements contained in the general  
79 standard and collateral standards as appropriate for the particular *ME equipment* under  
80 consideration.

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

82 For brevity, IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020 is referred to in this document as the  
83 general standard. Collateral standards are referred to by their document number.

84 The numbering of clauses and subclauses of this document corresponds to that of the general  
85 standard with the prefix "201" (e.g. 201.1 in this document addresses the content of Clause 1 of  
86 the general standard) or applicable collateral standard with the prefix "20x", where x is the final  
87 digit(s) of the collateral standard document number (e.g. 202.4 in this document addresses the  
88 content of Clause 4 of the IEC 60601-1-2 collateral standard, 208.6 in this document addresses  
89 the content of Clause 6 of the IEC 60601-1-8 collateral standard, etc.). The changes to the text of  
90 the general standard are specified by the use of the following words:

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

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

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

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

102 Subclauses, figures or tables which are additional to those of a collateral standard are numbered  
103 starting from 20x, where "x" is the number of the collateral standard, e.g. 202 for IEC 60601-1-2,  
104 211 for IEC 60601-1-11, etc.

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

<sup>2</sup> The general standard is IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020.

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

## 112 **201.2 Normative references**

113 The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their  
114 content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited  
115 applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any  
116 amendments) applies.

117 NOTE 1 The way in which these referenced documents are cited in normative requirements  
118 determines the extent (in whole or in part) to which they apply.

119 NOTE 2 Informative references are listed in the Bibliography.

120 IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020, Clause 2 applies, except as follows.

121 *Replacement:*

122 ISO 15223-1:2013<sup>3</sup>, *Medical devices — Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling and*  
123 *information to be supplied — Part 1: General requirements*

124 *Addition:*

125 ISO 3744:2010, *Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise*  
126 *sources using sound pressure — Engineering methods for an essentially free field over a reflecting*  
127 *plane*

128 ISO 5356-1:2015, *Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment — Conical connectors — Part 1: Cones*  
129 *and sockets*

130 ISO 5367:2014, *Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment — Breathing sets and connectors*

131 ISO 7396-1:2016+AMD1:2017, *Medical gas pipeline systems — Part 1: Pipeline systems for*  
132 *compressed medical gases and vacuum*

133 ISO 9360-1:2000, *Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment — Heat and moisture exchangers*  
134 *(HMEs) for humidifying respired gases in humans — Part 1: HMEs for use with minimum tidal*  
135 *volumes of 250 ml*

136 ISO 14937:2009, *Sterilization of health care products — General requirements for*  
137 *characterization of a sterilizing agent and the development, validation and routine control of a*  
138 *sterilization process for medical devices*

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<sup>3</sup> Under preparation. Stage at the time of publication: IEC/FDIS 15223-1:2020.

- 139 ISO 16142-1:2016, *Medical devices -- Recognized essential principles of safety and performance of*  
 140 *medical devices -- Part 1: General essential principles and additional specific essential principles for*  
 141 *all non-IVD medical devices and guidance on the selection of standards*
- 142 ISO 17664:2017, *Sterilization of medical devices — Information to be provided by the*  
 143 *manufacturer for the processing of resterilizable medical devices*
- 144 ISO 18562-1:2017, *Biocompatibility evaluation of breathing gas pathways in healthcare*  
 145 *applications — Part 1: Evaluation and testing within a risk management process*
- 146 ISO 19223:2019, *Lung ventilators and related equipment -- Vocabulary and semantics*
- 147 ISO 20417:2020, *Medical devices — Information to be supplied by the manufacturer*
- 148 ISO 23328-2:2002, *Breathing system filters for anaesthetic and respiratory use — Part 2: Non-*  
 149 *filtration aspects*
- 150 ISO 80369-1:2018, *Small-bore connectors for liquids and gases in healthcare applications —*  
 151 *Part 1: General requirements*
- 152 IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020, *Medical electrical equipment — Part 1: General*  
 153 *requirements for basic safety and essential performance*
- 154 IEC 60601-2-19:2009, *Medical electrical equipment — Part 2-19: Particular requirements for the*  
 155 *basic safety and essential performance of infant incubators*
- 156 IEC 62366-1:2015+AMD1:2020, *Medical devices -- Part 1: Application of usability*  
 157 *engineering to medical devices*
- 158 IEC 62570:2014, *Standard practice for marking medical devices and other items for safety*  
 159 *in the magnetic resonance environment*

### 160 **201.3 Terms and definitions**

161 For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 7396-1:2016,  
 162 ISO 9360-1:2000, ISO 17664:2017, ISO 18562-1:2017, ISO 19223:2019, ISO 23328-2:2002,  
 163 IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020, IEC 60601-1-2:2014+AMD1:2020,  
 164 IEC 60601-1-8:2006+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020, IEC 60601-1-11:2015, IEC 62366-1:2015 as  
 165 indicated in Annex KK and the following apply.

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

- 168 — ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>
- 169 — IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

170 NOTE An alphabetized index of defined terms is found in Annex KK.

#### 171 **201.3.201**

##### 172 ***absolute humidity***

173 mass of water vapour present in a unit volume of moist gas

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174 Note 1 to entry: In respiratory applications *absolute humidity* is commonly represented in units of  
175 milligrams per litre or grams per cubic metre.

176 Note 2 to entry: See also *relative humidity*.

177 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.1.1.1]

178 **201.3.202**

179 ***active HME***

180 *humidifier* where water, water vapour or heat is actively added to the *HME* to increase the  
181 humidity level of the gas delivered from the *HME* to the *patient*

182

183 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.7.2.3, modified —replaced 'device' with '*humidifier*'.]

184 **201.3.203**

185 ***aerosol***

186 suspension of liquid or solid particles in a gas

187

188 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.1.1.3]

189 **201.3.204**

190 ***airway device***

191 device intended to provide a *gas pathway* to and from the *patient's* trachea

192

193 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.8.1.1]

194 **201.3.205**

195 ***body temperature pressure, saturated*** ISO/DIS 80601-2-74

196 ***BTPS*** [https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/cf24a4f5-493e-4a79-88a9-](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/cf24a4f5-493e-4a79-88a9-b7e7e7d3e58/iso-dis-80601-2-74)

197 ambient atmospheric pressure, at a temperature of 37°C, and a *relative humidity* (201.3.220) of  
198 100 %

199

200 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.1.1.7]

201 **201.3.206**

202 ***breathing system***

203 inspiratory and expiratory *gas pathways* through which gas flows at respiratory pressures and  
204 continuously or intermittently in fluid communication with the *patient's* respiratory tract during  
205 any form of mechanical ventilation or respiratory therapy

206

207 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.6.1.1, modified —deleted the notes to entry.]

208 **201.3.207**

209 ***breathing tube***

210 non-rigid tube used to convey gases or vapours between components of a *breathing system*  
211 (201.3.205)

212

213 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.1.4.4, modified —deleted "and/".]

- 214 **201.3.208**  
 215 ***delivered gas temperature***  
 216 temperature of the gas, or *aerosol* (201.3.203), or both, at the *patient-connection port*  
 217
- 218 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.1.1.11]
- 219 **201.3.209**  
 220 ***flow-direction-sensitive component***  
 221 component or *accessory* through which gas flow is in one direction only for proper functioning  
 222 or *patient* safety  
 223
- 224 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.1.4.13, modified —replaced “must be” with “is”.]
- 225 **201.3.210**  
 226 ***gas intake port***  
 227 port through which gas is drawn for use by the *patient*  
 228
- 229 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.1.4.19]
- 230 **201.3.211**  
 231 ***heated breathing tube controller***  
 232 *ME* equipment which controls the temperature or the heating of a *breathing tube*  
 233 Note 1 to entry: A *heated breathing tube controller* can be either stand-alone or part of the *humidifier*.
- 234 **201.3.212**  
 235 ***humidification chamber***  
 236 part of the *humidifier* (201.3.211) in which vaporization or nebulization takes place  
 237 <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/cf24a4f5-493e-4a79-88a9-b7a7ac7d3a58/iso-dis-80601-2-74>
- 238 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.7.2.5]
- 239 **201.3.213**  
 240 ***humidification output***  
 241 total mass of water vapour per unit volume of gas at the *patient-connection port*  
 242 Note 1 to entry: *Humidification output* is expressed under *body temperature and pressure, saturated*  
 243 (*BTPS*) conditions.
- 244 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.7.2.6]
- 245 **201.3.214**  
 246 ***humidifier***  
 247 *ME* equipment that adds water in the form of droplets or vapour, or both, to the inspired gas  
 248 Note 1 to entry: This term includes vaporizing, bubble-through and ultrasonic *humidifiers* and active heat  
 249 and moisture exchangers (*HMEs*).
- 250 [SOURCE: ISO 4135:—<sup>[1]</sup>, 3.7.2.1]
- 251 **201.3.215**  
 252 ***liquid container***  
 253 part of a vaporizer, nebulizer or *humidifier* (201.3.213) which holds the liquid  
 254 Note 1 to entry: The *liquid container* can be accessible to the breathing gas.