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Medical electrical equipment —
Part 2-61:
Particular requirements for basic
safety and essential performance of
pulse oximeter equipment

Appareils électromédicaux —

Partie 2-61: Exigences particulières pour la sécurité de base et les performances essentielles pour les oxymètres de pouls

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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 ISO documents 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).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO 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).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on 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 the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared jointly by ISO/TC 121, *Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Lung ventilators and related equipment*, and Technical Committee IEC/TC 62, *Electrical equipment in medical practice*, Subcommittee SC D, *Electrical equipment*. The draft was circulated for voting to the national bodies of both ISO and IEC.

This second edition of ISO 80601-2-61 cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 80601-2-61:2011), which has been technically revised. It includes an alignment with Amendment 1 of both the third edition of IEC 60601-1 and the second edition of IEC 60601-1-8, as well as the fourth edition of IEC 60601-1-2, the third edition of IEC 60601-1-6, the second edition of IEC 60601-1-11 and IEC 60601-1-12.

The most significant changes are the following modifications:

- updated rationale (Annex AA) and references related to advances in the understanding of hypoxaemia, electronic health records and ALARM SYSTEMS;
- ingress protection changed from IPX1 to IPX2;

and the following additions:

- Clause 211, requirements for use in the HOME HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT;
- Clause 212, requirements for use in the emergency medical services (EMS) environment;
- Annex HH, Data interface requirements.

This corrected version of ISO 80601-2-61:2017 incorporates the following correction:

- headers have been corrected.

A list of all the parts of the ISO/IEC 80601 series is available on the ISO website.

Introduction

The approximation of arterial haemoglobin saturation and pulse rate using pulse oximetry is common practice in many areas of medicine. This document covers BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements achievable within the limits of existing technology.

The committees recognized the need to revise the first edition of this document because of the publication of the first edition of IEC 60601-1-12, as well as the fourth edition of IEC 60601-1-2, the second edition of IEC 60601-1-11 and the first Amendments to both the third edition of IEC 60601-1, the third edition of IEC 60601-1-6 and the second edition of IEC 60601-1-8.

Annex AA contains a rationale for some of the requirements. It is included to provide additional insight into the reasoning of the committees that led to a requirement and identifying the HAZARDS that the requirement addresses.

Annex BB is a literature survey relevant to the determination of the maximum safe temperature of the interface between a PULSE OXIMETER PROBE and a PATIENT'S tissue.

Annex CC discusses both the formulae used to evaluate the SpO_2 ACCURACY of PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT measurements, and the names that are assigned to those formulae.

Annex DD presents guidance on when in vitro blood calibration of PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT is needed.

Annex EE presents a guideline for a CONTROLLED DESATURATION STUDY for the calibration of PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT.

Annex FF is a tutorial introduction to several kinds of testers used in pulse oximetry.

Annex GG describes concepts of PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT response time.

Annex HH describes data interface requirements.

Annex II contains Reference to the ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES formerly found in Annex HH.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

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In this document, 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 STANDARD¹ IN THIS DOCUMENT OR AS NOTED: SMALL CAPITALS.

In referring to the structure of this document, the term

- “clause” means one of the six numbered divisions within the table of contents, inclusive of all subdivisions (e.g. Clause 201 includes subclauses 201.7.1, 201.7.2) and
- “subclause” means a numbered subdivision of a clause (e.g. 201.7.1, 7.2 and 201.7.2.1 are all subclauses of Clause 201.7).

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

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.

The verbal forms used in this document conform to usage described in Annex H of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. For the purposes of this document, the auxiliary verb:

- “shall” means that compliance with a requirement or a test is mandatory for compliance with this document;
- “should” means that compliance with a requirement or a test is recommended but is not mandatory for compliance with this document; and
- “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.

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