

# **10A NCAC 13S .0212    ELEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT**

The physical plant shall provide equipment to carry out the functions of the clinic with the following requirements:

- (1) Mechanical requirements.
  - (a) All fans serving exhaust systems shall be located at the discharge end of the system.
  - (b) The ventilation system shall be designed and balanced to provide the pressure relationships detailed in Sub-Item (f) of this Rule.
  - (c) All ventilation or air conditioning systems shall have a minimum of one filter bed with a minimum filter efficiency of a MERV 8.
  - (d) Ventilation systems serving the procedure rooms shall not be tied in with toilets, soiled holding, or janitors' closets if the air is to be recirculated in any manner.
  - (e) Air handling duct systems shall not have duct linings.
  - (f) The following general air pressure relationships to adjacent areas and ventilation rates shall apply:

Area	Pressure Relationship	Minimum Total Air Changes/Hour
Toilets	N	4
Janitor's closet	N	6
Soiled holding	N	6
Clean holding	NR	2

(N = negative pressure NR = No Requirement)

- (2) Plumbing And Other Piping Systems.
  - (a) Piped-in medical gas and vacuum systems, if installed, shall meet the requirements of NFPA-99, category 2 system, which is hereby incorporated by reference including subsequent amendments and editions. Copies of NFPA-99 may be purchased from the National Fire Protection Association online at <https://www.nfpa.org/product/nfpa-99-code/p0099code> at a cost of one hundred forty-nine dollars (\$149.00).
  - (b) Lavatories and sinks for use by medical personnel shall have the water supply spout mounted so that its discharge point is a minimum distance of ten (10) inches above the bottom of the basin with mixing type fixture valves that can be operated without the use of the hands.
  - (c) Hot water distribution systems shall provide hot water at hand washing facilities at a minimum temperature of 100 degrees F. and a maximum temperature of 116 degrees F.
- (3) Electrical Requirements.
  - (a) The facility's paths of egress to the outside shall have at a minimum, listed battery backup lighting units of one and one-half hour capability that will automatically provide at least one foot candle of illumination at the floor in the event needed for a utility or local lighting circuit failure.
  - (b) Electrically operated medical equipment necessary for the safety of the patient shall have, at a minimum, battery backup.
- (4) Buildings systems and medical equipment shall have preventative maintenance conducted as recommended by the equipment manufacturers' or installers' literature to assure operation in compliance with manufacturer's instructions.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 131E-153.5; 143B-165;  
Codifier determined that findings of need did not meet criteria for emergency rule on October 30, 2023;  
Emergency Rule Eff. November 14, 2023;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. February 8, 2024;  
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