



Jim Pillen, Governor

Memorandum

To: Life Safety Code Surveyors

From: Doug Hohbein
State Fire Marshal

Date: August 11, 2026

Re: Personal Electrical Appliances and Equipment in Health Care Occupancies

NFPA 99 regulates the use, inspection and placement of Nonpatient Electrical Appliances and Equipment in health care occupancies. The intent of Chapter 10 is to reduce the possibility of electric shock from defective electrical devices. Section 10.4.2.2 requires any equipment that appears not to be in proper working order or in a worn condition to be removed from service or reported to appropriate maintenance staff.

Personal electrical devices either brought into the facility by the resident/patient or furnished by the facility and used within the Patient Care Vicinity (within six feet of the bed) must be inspected annually by the facility and any device, appliance or equipment that is found to be defective, unsafe or not in proper working order must be repaired or removed immediately. An inspection also must be conducted whenever a new resident moves in or a resident moves to a new room within the facility.

Personal electrical devices that have been inspected by the facility annually, are listed by a recognized testing laboratory and found to be in proper working order can remain in use within the Patient Care Vicinity and are allowed to be plugged into a listed power tap (60601-1 or 1363A) or directly into an outlet.

This policy is intended to allow the use of properly functioning personal items such as lamps, laptops and phone chargers. These items do not require three-prong plugs or a double insulated designation as previously mandated.

This policy supersedes previously issued documents. All other requirements listed in previously issued documents must be met as written. This includes PCREE testing and power tap audits.

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