

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Medical electrical equipment –
Part 2-46: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance
of operating tables**

**Appareils électromédicaux –
Partie 2-46: Exigences particulières pour la sécurité de base et les performances
essentielles des tables d'opération**



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –**Part 2-46: Particular requirements for the basic safety
and essential performance of operating tables**

FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of 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, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). 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. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
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IEC 60601-2-46 has been prepared by subcommittee 62D: Particular medical equipment, software, and systems, of IEC technical committee 62: Medical equipment, software, and systems. It is an International Standard.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2016. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical change with respect to the previous edition: structural alignment with IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020.

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

Draft	Report on voting
62D/1939/CDV	62D/1989/RVC

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

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 IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 AND IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020, IN THIS PARTICULAR STANDARD OR AS NOTED: SMALL CAPITALS.

In referring to the structure of this document, the term

- "clause" means one of the numbered divisions within the table of contents, inclusive of all subdivisions (e.g. Clause 7 includes Subclauses 7.1, 7.2, etc.);
- "subclause" means a numbered subdivision of a clause (e.g. 7.1, 7.2 and 7.2.1 are all subclauses of Clause 7).

References to clauses within this document are preceded by the term "Clause" followed by the clause number. References to subclauses within this particular standard 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 Clause 7 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;
- "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.

A list of all parts of the IEC 60601 series, published under the general title *Medical electrical equipment*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

INTRODUCTION

This particular standard concerns the BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE of OPERATING TABLES.

It amends and supplements IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020.

The aim of this document is to update it with reference to IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 through reformatting and technical changes.

The requirements of this particular standard take priority over those of IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020.

A "general guidance and rationale" for the more important requirements of this particular standard is included in Annex AA. It is considered that knowledge of the reasons for these requirements will not only facilitate the proper application of the standard but will, in due course, expedite any revision necessitated by changes in clinical practice or as a result of developments in technology. However, Annex AA does not form part of the requirements of this document.

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –

Part 2-46: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance of operating tables

201.1 Scope, object and related standards

IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020, Clause 1, applies, except as follows:

201.1.1 Scope

Replacement:

This part of IEC 60601 specifies safety requirements for OPERATING TABLES, whether or not having electrical parts, including TRANSPORTERS, used for the transportation of the OPERATING TABLE top to or from the base or pedestal of an OPERATING TABLE with detachable OPERATING TABLE top.

NOTE See also IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020, 4.2.

This particular standard does not apply to

- dental PATIENT chairs (see ISO 7494-1),
- examination chairs and couches,
- PATIENT-supporting systems of diagnostic, interventional and therapeutic equipment (see IEC 60601-2-54 or IEC 60601-2-43),
- OPERATING TABLE heating blankets (see IEC 60601-2-35),
- PATIENT transfer equipment,
- delivery tables and delivery beds,
- medical beds (see IEC 60601-2-52 and EN 50637), and
- field tables.

201.1.2 Object

Replacement:

The object of this particular standard is to establish particular BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements for OPERATING TABLES as defined in 201.3.203.

201.1.3 Collateral standards

Addition:

This particular standard refers to those applicable collateral standards that are listed in IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020, Clause 2, and Clause 201.2 of this particular standard.

IEC 60601-1-2 and IEC 60601-1-3 apply as modified in Clauses 202 and 203 respectively. IEC 60601-1-8, IEC 60601-1-9, IEC 60601-1-10, IEC 60601-1-11 and IEC 60601-1-12 do not apply. All other published collateral standards in the IEC 60601-1 series apply as published.

201.1.4 Particular standards

Replacement:

In the IEC 60601 series, particular standards may modify, replace or delete requirements contained in IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 and collateral standards as appropriate for the particular ME EQUIPMENT under consideration, and may add other BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements.

A requirement of a particular standard takes priority over IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020.

The numbering of clauses and subclauses of this particular standard corresponds to that of IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 with the prefix "201" (e.g. 201.1 in this document addresses the content of IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020, Clause 1) or applicable collateral standard with the prefix "20x" where x is the final digit(s) of the collateral standard document number (e.g. 202.4 in this particular standard addresses the content of Clause 4 of the IEC 60601-1-2 collateral standard, 203.4 in this particular standard addresses the content of Clause 4 of the IEC 60601-1-3 collateral standard, etc.). The changes to the text of IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 and applicable collateral standards are specified by the use of the following words:

"Replacement" means that the clause or subclause of IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 or applicable collateral 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 IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 or applicable collateral standard.

"Amendment" means that the clause or subclause of IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 or applicable collateral standard is amended as indicated by the text of this particular standard.

Subclauses, figures or tables which are additional to those of IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 are numbered starting from 201.101. However, due to the fact that definitions in IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 are numbered 3.1 through 3.154, additional definitions in this document are numbered beginning from 201.3.201. Additional annexes are lettered AA, BB, etc., and additional items aa), bb), etc.

Subclauses, figures or tables which are additional to those of a collateral standard are numbered starting from 20x, where "x" is the number of the collateral standard, e.g. 202 for IEC 60601-1-2, 203 for IEC 60601-1-3, etc.

The term "this document" is used to make reference to IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020, any applicable collateral standards and this particular standard taken together.

Where there is no corresponding clause or subclause in this particular standard, the clause or subclause of IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 or applicable collateral standard, although possibly not relevant, applies without modification; where it is intended that any part of IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 or applicable collateral standard, although possibly relevant, is not to be applied, a statement to that effect is given in this particular standard.

201.2 Normative references

IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020, Clause 2, applies, except as follows:

Replacement:

IEC 60601-1-3:2008, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-3: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance – Collateral standard: Radiation protection in diagnostic X-ray equipment*
Amendment 1:2013
Amendment 2:2021

ISO 2878:2017, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic – Antistatic and conductive products – Determination of electrical resistance*

Addition:

IEC 60601-2-2:2017, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 2-2: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance of high frequency surgical equipment and high frequency surgical accessories*

IEC 60601-2-43:2022, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 2-43: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance of X-ray equipment for interventional procedures*

IEC 60601-2-54:2022, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 2-54: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance of X-ray equipment for radiography and radioscopy*

201.3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

NOTE An index of defined terms is found on page 28.

Addition:

201.3.201

MOBILE OPERATING TABLE

OPERATING TABLE intended to be relocated from one location to another while supported by its own wheels or equivalent means

201.3.202

NORMAL POSITION

position of the OPERATING TABLE top with all sections set in the horizontal position