
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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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.

ISO 80601-2-61 was prepared by a Joint Working Group of Technical Committee 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, *Electromedical equipment*.

This first edition of ISO 80601-2-61 cancels and replaces the second edition of ISO 9919:2005, which has been revised to harmonize it with the third edition of IEC 60601-1:2005.

In this standard, 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 STANDARD, IN THIS PARTICULAR STANDARD OR AS NOTED: SMALL CAPITALS TYPE.

In referring to the structure of this standard, the term

- “clause” means one of the seventeen 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 standard are preceded by the term “Clause” followed by the clause number. References to subclauses within this standard are by number only.

In this standard, 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 standard conform to usage described in Annex H of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. For the purposes of this standard, the auxiliary verb:

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

The attention of Member Bodies and National Committees is drawn to the fact that equipment manufacturers and testing organizations may need a transitional period following publication of a new, amended or revised ISO or IEC publication in which to make products in accordance with the new requirements and to equip themselves for conducting new or revised tests. It is the recommendation of the committee that the content of this publication be adopted for implementation nationally not earlier than 3 years from the date of publication for equipment newly designed and not earlier than 5 years from the date of publication for equipment already in production.

Introduction

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

Annex AA contains a rationale for some of the requirements. It is included to provide additional insight into the reasoning of the committee 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.

Medical electrical equipment —

Part 2-61:

Particular requirements for basic safety and essential performance of pulse oximeter equipment

201.1 Scope, object and related standards

IEC 60601-1:2005, Clause 1 applies, except as follows:

201.1.1 * Scope

Subclause 1.1 of The general standard is replaced by:

This International Standard applies to the BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE of PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT intended for use on humans, hereafter referred to as ME EQUIPMENT. This includes any part necessary for NORMAL USE, including the PULSE OXIMETER MONITOR, PULSE OXIMETER PROBE, and PROBE CABLE EXTENDER.

These requirements also apply to PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT, including PULSE OXIMETER MONITORS, PULSE OXIMETER PROBES and PROBE CABLE EXTENDERS, which have been REPROCESSED.

The intended use of PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT includes, but is not limited to, the estimation of arterial oxygen haemoglobin saturation and pulse rate of PATIENTS in professional healthcare institutions as well as PATIENTS in the HOME HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT.

This International Standard is not applicable to PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT intended for use in laboratory research applications nor to oximeters that require a blood sample from the PATIENT.

If a clause or subclause is specifically intended to be applicable to ME EQUIPMENT only, or to ME SYSTEMS only, the title and content of that clause or subclause will say so. If that is not the case, the clause or subclause applies both to ME EQUIPMENT and to ME SYSTEMS, as relevant.

HAZARDS inherent in the intended physiological function of ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEMS within the scope of this standard are not covered by specific requirements in this standard except in 201.11 and in 7.2.13 and 8.4.1 of the general standard.

NOTE See also 4.2 of the general standard.

This standard can also be applied to PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT and their ACCESSORIES used for compensation or alleviation of disease, injury or disability.

This International Standard is not applicable to PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT intended solely for foetal use.

This International Standard is not applicable to remote or slave (secondary) devices that display SpO_2 values that are located outside of the PATIENT ENVIRONMENT.

201.1.2 Object

Subclause 1.2 of The general standard is replaced by:

The object of this particular standard is to establish particular BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements for PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT [as defined in 201.3.216] and its ACCESSORIES.

NOTE ACCESSORIES are included because the combination of the PULSE OXIMETER MONITOR and the ACCESSORIES needs to be safe. ACCESSORIES can have a significant impact on the BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE of PULSE OXIMETER EQUIPMENT.

201.1.3 Collateral standards

IEC 60601-1:2005, subclause 1.3 applies with the following addition:

This particular standard refers to those applicable collateral standards that are listed in Clause 2 of the general standard and Clause 201.2 of this particular standard.

IEC 60601-1-3 does not apply.

NOTE Additional requirements for ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS intended for use in the HOME HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT are found in IEC 60601-1-11.

201.1.4 Particular standards

Subclause 1.4 of The general standard is replaced by:

In the IEC 60601 series, particular standards may modify, replace or delete requirements contained in the general standard 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 the general standard.

For brevity, IEC 60601-1 is referred to in this particular standard as the general standard. Collateral standards are referred to by their document number.

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

"Replacement" means that the clause or subclause of the general standard 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 the general standard or applicable collateral standard.

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

Subclauses or figures which are additional to those of the general standard are numbered starting from 201.101, additional annexes are lettered AA, BB, etc., and additional items aa), bb), etc.

Subclauses or figures 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, 206 for IEC 60601-1-6, etc.

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

Where there is no corresponding section, clause or subclause in this particular standard, the section, clause or subclause of the general standard or applicable collateral standard, although possibly not relevant, applies without modification; where it is intended that any part of the general standard 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

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. The way in which these referenced documents are cited in normative requirements determines the extent (in whole or in part) to which they apply. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

NOTE Informative references are listed in the bibliography beginning on page 76.

IEC 60601-1:2005, Clause 2 applies, except as follows:

Replacement:

IEC 60529:2001, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP code)*

IEC 60601-1-2:2007, *Medical electrical equipment — Part 1-2: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance — Collateral Standard: Electromagnetic compatibility — Requirements and tests*

IEC 60601-1-6:2010, *Medical electrical equipment — Part 1-6: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance — Collateral standard: Usability*

IEC 60601-1-8:2006, *Medical electrical equipment — Part 1-8: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance — Collateral Standard: General requirements, tests and guidance for alarm systems in medical electrical equipment and medical electrical systems*

IEC 60825-1:2007, *Safety of laser products — Part 1: Equipment classification and requirements*

Addition:

ISO 7000/IEC 60417:2004, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment — Index and synopsis*

ISO 14155:2011, *Clinical investigation of medical devices for human subjects — Good clinical practice*

ISO 14937:2000, *Sterilization of health care products — General requirements for characterization of a sterilizing agent and the development, validation and routine control of a sterilization process for medical devices*

ISO 15223-1:2007, *Medical devices — Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling and information to be supplied — Part 1: General requirements*

ISO 15223-1:2007/Amd.1:2008

IEC 60068-2-27:2008, *Environmental testing — Part 2-27: Tests — Test Ea and guidance: Shock*

IEC 60068-2-31:2008, *Environmental testing — Part 2-31: Tests — Test Ec: Rough handling shocks, primarily for equipment-type specimens*

IEC 60068-2-64:2008, *Environmental testing — Part 2-64: Tests — Test Fh: Vibration, broadband random and guidance*

IEC 60601-1-9:2007, *Medical electrical equipment — Part 1-9: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance — Collateral Standard: Requirements for environmentally conscious design*

IEC 60601-1-10:2007, *Medical electrical equipment — Part 1-10: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance — Collateral Standard: Requirements for the development of physiologic closed-loop controllers*

IEC 60601-1-11:2010, *Medical electrical equipment — Part 1-11: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance — Collateral Standard: Requirements for medical electrical equipment and medical electrical systems used in the home healthcare environment*

IEC 60825-2:2004, *Safety of laser products — Part 2: Safety of optical fibre communication systems (OFCS)*
IEC 60825-2:2004/Amd.1:2006

IEC/TR 60878:2003, *Graphical symbols for electrical equipment in medical practice*

IEC 62471:2006, *Photobiological safety of lamps and lamp systems*