



Hazards associated with electrical systems include electrical shock, burns, and fire. To avoid these hazards health care facility should establish policy and procedures to ensure compliance with NFPA 70, National Electrical Code.

**K147 – Electrical** – Electrical wiring and equipment shall be in accordance with NFPA 70, National Electrical Code. 9.1.2, 1999 Edition. (Cite Frequency-54)

CMS-2786R Fire Safety Survey Report 2000 Code-Health Care (K147 - Electrical wiring and equipment shall be in accordance with NFPA 70, National Electrical Code. 9.1.2, page 25)  
<http://www.cms.gov/cmsforms/downloads/CMS2786R.pdf>

Tips for compliance:

- ✓ There shall not be missing or broken junction boxes, light switches, or electrical outlet cover plates.
- ✓ Extension cords shall not be used for more than temporary use.
- ✓ Power strips may not be used in resident rooms in the "patient vicinity." This means the area around the patient bed.
- ✓ No medical equipment, including the resident bed or any high current draw devices can be plugged into a power strip.
- ✓ Power strips cannot be covered with rugs or other material.
- ✓ Power strips are not allowed to be plugged into another power strip (daisy chain) and extension cords cannot be plugged into them.



- ✓ Power strips shall not be permanently attached to the wall.
- ✓ Appliances that produce heat or are used for cooling cannot be plugged into a power strip (hair dryers or refrigerators.)
- ✓ Power strips may be used in non-wet, non direct patient areas. Routine mopping does not constitute a wet area.
- ✓ Equipment such as televisions, DVD players, and clocks, may be plugged into a power strip with surge protection.
- ✓ Inspect and monitor the facility to ensure that power strips with surge protection are used appropriately.
- ✓ Electrical service panels shall not be unlocked in areas that are accessible to residents. (Enclosures housing electrical apparatus that are controlled by lock and key shall be considered accessible to qualified persons.)
- ✓ Maintain at least (3) three foot of clearance around all electrical service panels.
- ✓ Electrical receptacles and fixed equipment within wet locations shall have ground-fault circuit interrupter protection.
- ✓ Where additional outlets are needed in the patient vicinity they must be installed in accordance with NFPA 70 National Electrical Code.