

# American National Standard



## ANSI/AAMI/ IEC 60601- 1-2:2007/ (R)2012

Medical electrical equipment — Part 1-2: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance — Collateral standard: Electromagnetic compatibility — Requirements and tests

# The Objectives and Uses of AAMI Standards and Recommended Practices

It is most important that the objectives and potential uses of an AAMI product standard or recommended practice are clearly understood. The objectives of AAMI's technical development program derive from AAMI's overall mission: the advancement of medical instrumentation. Essential to such advancement are (1) a continued increase in the safe and effective application of current technologies to patient care, and (2) the encouragement of new technologies. It is AAMI's view that standards and recommended practices can contribute significantly to the advancement of medical instrumentation, provided that they are drafted with attention to these objectives and provided that arbitrary and restrictive uses are avoided.

A voluntary *standard* for a *medical device* recommends to the manufacturer the information that should be provided with or on the product, basic safety and performance criteria that should be considered in qualifying the device for clinical use, and the measurement techniques that can be used to determine whether the device conforms with the safety and performance criteria and/or to compare the performance characteristics of different products. Some standards emphasize the information that should be provided with the device, including performance characteristics, instructions for use, warnings and precautions, and other data considered important in ensuring the safe and effective use of the device in the clinical environment. Recommending the disclosure of performance characteristics often necessitates the development of specialized test methods to facilitate uniformity in reporting; reaching consensus on these tests can represent a considerable part of committee work. When a drafting committee determines that clinical concerns warrant the establishment of *minimum* safety and performance criteria, referee tests must be provided and the reasons for establishing the criteria must be documented in the rationale.

A *recommended practice* provides guidelines for the use, care, and/or processing of a medical device or system. A recommended practice does not address device performance *per se*, but rather procedures and practices that will help ensure that a device is used safely and effectively and that its performance will be maintained.

Although a device standard is primarily directed to the manufacturer, it may also be of value to the potential purchaser or user of the device as a frame of reference for device evaluation. Similarly, even though a recommended practice is usually oriented towards health care professionals, it may be useful to the manufacturer in better understanding the environment in which a medical device will be used. Also, some recommended practices, while not addressing device performance criteria, provide guidelines to industrial personnel on such subjects as sterilization processing, methods of collecting data to establish safety and efficacy, human engineering, and other processing or evaluation techniques; such guidelines may be useful to health care professionals in understanding industrial practices.

In determining whether an AAMI standard or recommended practice is relevant to the specific needs of a potential user of the document, several important concepts must be recognized:

All AAMI standards and recommended practices are *voluntary* (unless, of course, they are adopted by government regulatory or procurement authorities). The application of a standard or recommended practice is solely within the discretion and professional judgment of the user of the document.

Each AAMI standard or recommended practice reflects the collective expertise of a committee of health care professionals and industrial representatives, whose work has been reviewed nationally (and sometimes internationally). As such, the consensus recommendations embodied in a standard or recommended practice are intended to respond to clinical needs and, ultimately, to help ensure patient safety. A standard or recommended practice is limited, however, in the sense that it responds generally to perceived risks and conditions that may not always be relevant to specific situations. A standard or recommended practice is an important *reference* in responsible decision-making, but it should never *replace* responsible decision-making.

Despite periodic review and revision (at least once every five years), a standard or recommended practice is necessarily a static document applied to a dynamic technology. Therefore, a standards user must carefully review the reasons why the document was initially developed and the specific rationale for each of its provisions. This review will reveal whether the document remains relevant to the specific needs of the user.

Particular care should be taken in applying a product standard to existing devices and equipment, and in applying a recommended practice to current procedures and practices. While observed or potential risks with existing equipment typically form the basis for the safety and performance criteria defined in a standard, professional judgment must be used in applying these criteria to existing equipment. No single source of information will serve to identify a particular product as "unsafe". A voluntary standard can be used as one resource, but the ultimate decision as to product safety and efficacy must take into account the specifics of its utilization and, of course, cost-benefit considerations. Similarly, a recommended practice should be analyzed in the context of the specific needs and resources of the individual institution or firm. Again, the rationale accompanying each AAMI standard and recommended practice is an excellent guide to the reasoning and data underlying its provision.

In summary, a standard or recommended practice is truly useful only when it is used in conjunction with other sources of information and policy guidance and in the context of professional experience and judgment.

## INTERPRETATIONS OF AAMI STANDARDS AND RECOMMENDED PRACTICES

Requests for interpretations of AAMI standards and recommended practices must be made in writing, to the Manager for Technical Development. An official interpretation must be approved by letter ballot of the originating committee and subsequently reviewed and approved by the AAMI Standards Board. The interpretation will become official and representation of the Association only upon exhaustion of any appeals and upon publication of notice of interpretation in the "Standards Monitor" section of the *AAMI News*. The Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation disclaims responsibility for any characterization or explanation of a standard or recommended practice which has not been developed and communicated in accordance with this procedure and which is not published, by appropriate notice, as an *official interpretation* in the *AAMI News*.

American National Standard

ANSI/AAMI/IEC 60601-1-2:2007/(R)2012  
(Combined revision of  
ANSI/AAMI/IEC 60601-1-2:2001 &  
ANSI/AAMI/IEC 60601-1-2:2001/Amendment 1:2004)

**Medical electrical equipment — Part 1-2:  
General requirements for basic safety  
and essential performance —  
Collateral standard:  
Electromagnetic compatibility —  
Requirements and tests**

Approved 15 May 2007 by  
**Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation**

Approved 17 May 2007 and reaffirmed 17 January 2012 by  
**American National Standards Institute, Inc.**

**Abstract:** Specifies requirements and tests for electromagnetic compatibility of equipment and/or systems and serves as the basis of electromagnetic compatibility requirements and tests in Particular Standards.

**Keywords:** EMC, electromedical device, electromagnetic interference, medical electrical equipment

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## Glossary of equivalent standards

International Standards adopted in the United States may include normative references to other International Standards. For each International Standard that has been adopted by AAMI (and ANSI), the table below gives the corresponding U.S. designation and level of equivalency to the International Standard. NOTE: Documents are sorted by international designation.

Other normatively referenced International Standards may be under consideration for U.S. adoption by AAMI; therefore, this list should not be considered exhaustive.

| International designation                | U.S. designation   | Equivalency                             |
|--|--|---|
| IEC 60601-1:2005                         | ANSI/AAMI ES60601-1:2005   | Major technical variations              |
| IEC 60601-1-2:2007                       | ANSI/AAMI/IEC 60601-1-2:2007                                       | Identical                               |
| IEC 60601-2-2:2006                       | ANSI/AAMI/IEC 60601-2-2:2006                                       | Identical                               |
| IEC 60601-2-4:2002                       | ANSI/AAMI DF80:2003  | Major technical variations              |
| IEC 60601-2-19:1990 and Amendment 1:1996 | ANSI/AAMI II36:2004  | Major technical variations              |
| IEC 60601-2-20:1990 and Amendment 1:1996 | ANSI/AAMI II51:2004  | Major technical variations              |
| IEC 60601-2-21:1994 and Amendment 1:1996 | ANSI/AAMI/IEC 60601-2-21 and Amendment 1:2000 (consolidated texts) | Identical                               |
| IEC 60601-2-24:1998                      | ANSI/AAMI ID26:2004  | Major technical variations              |
| IEC 60601-2-50:2001                      | ANSI/AAMI/IEC 60601-2-50:2006                                      | Identical                               |
| IEC/TR 60878:2003                        | ANSI/AAMI/IEC TIR60878:2003  | Identical                               |
| IEC/TR 62296:2003                        | ANSI/AAMI/IEC TIR62296:2003  | Identical                               |
| IEC 62304:2006                           | ANSI/AAMI/IEC 62304:2006   | Identical                               |
| IEC/TR 62348:2006                        | ANSI/AAMI/IEC TIR62348:2006  | Identical                               |
| ISO 5840:2005                            | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 5840:2005  | Identical                               |
| ISO 7198:1998                            | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 7198:1998/2001/(R)2004                               | Identical                               |
| ISO 7199:1996                            | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 7199:1996/(R)2002                                    | Identical                               |
| ISO 8637:2004                            | ANSI/AAMI RD16:2007  | Major technical variations              |
| ISO 8638:2004                            | ANSI/AAMI RD17:2007  | Major technical variations              |
| ISO 10993-1:2003                         | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-1:2003   | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-2:2006                         | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-2:2006   | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-3:2003                         | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-3:2003   | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-4:2002 and Amendment 1:2006    | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-4:2002 and Amendment 1:2006                    | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-5:1999                         | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-5:1999   | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-6:2007                         | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-6:2007   | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-7:1995                         | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-7:1995/(R)2001                                 | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-9:1999                         | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-9:1999/(R)2005                                 | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-10:2002 and Amendment 1:2006   | ANSI/AAMI BE78:2002<br>ANSI/AAMI BE78:2002/A1:2006                 | Minor technical variations<br>Identical |
| ISO 10993-11:2006                        | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-11:2006  | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-12:2002                        | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-12:2002  | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-13:1998                        | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-13:1999/(R)2004                                | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-14:2001                        | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-14:2001/(R)2006                                | Identical                               |
| ISO 10993-15:2000                        | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-15:2000/(R)2006                                | Identical                               |



| <b>International designation</b>                | <b>U.S. designation</b>                              | <b>Equivalency</b>         |
|---|--|----------------------------|
| ISO 10993-16:1997                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-16:1997/(R)2003                  | Identical                  |
| ISO 10993-17:2002                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 10993-17:2002                          | Identical                  |
| ISO 10993-18:2005                               | ANSI/AAMI BE83:2006                                  | Major technical variations |
| ISO/TS 10993-19:2006                            | ANSI/AAMI/ISO TIR10993-19:2006                       | Identical                  |
| ISO/TS 10993-20:2006                            | ANSI/AAMI/ISO TIR10993-20:2006                       | Identical                  |
| ISO 11135:1994                                  | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11135:1994                             | Identical                  |
| ISO 11137-1:2006                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11137-1:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11137-2:2006 (2006-08-01 corrected version) | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11137-2:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11137-3:2006                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11137-3:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11138-1: 2006                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11138-1:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11138-2: 2006                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11138-2:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11138-3: 2006                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11138-3:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11138-4: 2006                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11138-4:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11138-5: 2006                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11138-5:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO/TS 11139:2006                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11139:2006                             | Identical                  |
| ISO 11140-1:2005                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11140-1:2005                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11140-3:2007                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11140-3:2007                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11140-4:2007                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11140-4:2007                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11140-5:2007                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11140-5:2007                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11607-1:2006                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11607-1:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11607-2:2006                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11607-2:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11737-1: 2006                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11737-1:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11737-2:1998                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11737-2:1998                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 11737-3:2004                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 11737-3:2004                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 13485:2003                                  | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 13485:2003                             | Identical                  |
| ISO 14155-1:2003                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 14155-1:2003                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 14155-2:2003                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 14155-2:2003                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 14160:1998                                  | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 14160:1998                             | Identical                  |
| ISO 14161:2000                                  | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 14161:2000                             | Identical                  |
| ISO 14937:2000                                  | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 14937:2000                             | Identical                  |
| ISO/TR 14969:2004                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO TIR14969:2004                          | Identical                  |
| ISO 14971:2007                                  | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 14971:2007                             | Identical                  |
| ISO 15223-1:2007                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 15223-1:2007                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 15225:2000 and A1:2004                      | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 15225:2000/(R)2006 and A1:2004/(R)2006 | Identical                  |
| ISO 15674:2001                                  | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 15674:2001                             | Identical                  |
| ISO 15675:2001                                  | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 15675:2001                             | Identical                  |
| ISO 15882:2003                                  | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 15882:2003                             | Identical                  |
| ISO/TR 16142:2006                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO TIR16142:2006                          | Identical                  |
| ISO 17664:2004                                  | ANSI/AAMI ST81:2004                                  | Major technical variations |
| ISO 17665-1:2006                                | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 17665-1:2006                           | Identical                  |
| ISO 18472:2006                                  | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 18472:2006                             | Identical                  |
| ISO/TS 19218:2005                               | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 19218:2005                             | Identical                  |
| ISO 25539-1:2003 and A1:2005                    | ANSI/AAMI/ISO 25539-1:2003 and A1:2005               | Identical                  |

## Committee representation

### Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation

#### Electromagnetic Compatibility Committee

This standard was developed by the Electromagnetic Compatibility Committee of the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation. Committee approval of this standard does not necessarily imply that all committee members voted for its approval.

At the time this document was published, the **AAMI Electromagnetic Compatibility Committee** had the following members:

*Cochairs:* Don Heirman  
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*Members:* Eric V. Anderson, Philips Medical Systems  
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NOTE—Participation by federal agency representatives in the development of this recommended practice does not constitute endorsement by the federal government or any of its agencies.

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## Background of AAMI adoption of IEC 60601-1-2, Third edition, 2007-04

As indicated in the foreword to the main body of this document (page x), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The United States is one of the IEC members that took an active role in the development of this standard.

International Standard IEC 60601-1-2 was developed by Maintenance Team (MT) 23, Electromagnetic Compatibility, of Subcommittee (SC) 62A, Common aspects of electrical equipment used in medical practice, to provide minimum safety requirements that will help assure a reasonable level of clinical efficacy and patient safety.

U.S. participation in IEC/SC 62A/MT 23 is organized through the U.S. Technical Advisory Group for IEC/SC 62A, administered by the Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed) on behalf of the United States National Committee. AAMI administers the International Secretariat for IEC/SC 62A on behalf of the United States, and U.S. experts made a considerable contribution to this standard.

AAMI encourages its committees to harmonize their work with international standards as much as possible. The AAMI Electromagnetic Compatibility Committee held joint meetings with the U.S. Technical Advisory Group for IEC/SC 62A to formulate the U.S. position and comments while the document was being developed. This close collaboration helped gain widespread consensus on the document. As the U.S. Technical Advisory Group for IEC/SC 62A, AdvaMed granted AAMI permission for an identical adoption of IEC 60601-1-2:2007 (3rd ed.) as a combined revision of the American National Standard ANSI/AAMI/IEC 60601-1-2:2001 and its Amendment, ANSI/AAMI/IEC 60601-1-2:2001/A1:2004.

IEC 60601-1-2 is a collateral standard to IEC 60601-1. The AAMI adoption of IEC 60601-1:2005 as an American National Standard included U.S. deviations and was subsequently designated ANSI/AAMI ES60601-1:2005. Therefore, ANSI/AAMI/IEC 60601-1-2:2007 is also a collateral standard to ANSI/AAMI ES60601-1:2005.

The concepts incorporated into this standard should not be considered inflexible or static. This standard, like any other, must be reviewed and updated periodically to assimilate progressive technological developments. To remain relevant, it must be modified as technological advances are made and as new data come to light.

Suggestions for improving this standard are invited. Comments and suggested revisions should be sent to Standards Department, AAMI, 1110 N. Glebe Road, Suite 220, Arlington, VA 22201-4795.

NOTE 1—This background does not contain provisions of the AAMI/IEC standard, *Medical electrical equipment — Part 1-2: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance — Collateral standard: Electromagnetic compatibility — Requirements and tests* (AAMI/IEC 60601-1-2:2007), but it does provide important information about the development and intended use of the document.

NOTE 2—Beginning with the text on page vii, this American National Standard is identical to IEC 60601-1-2, Third edition, 2007-04.

# INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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## MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –

### **Part 1-2: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance – Collateral standard: Electromagnetic compatibility – Requirements and tests**

#### FOREWORD

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International standard IEC 60601-1-2 has been prepared by IEC subcommittee 62A: Common aspects of electrical equipment used in medical practice, of IEC technical committee 62: Electrical equipment in medical practice.

This third edition constitutes a collateral standard to IEC 60601-1: *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1: General requirements for safety and essential performance* hereafter referred to as the general standard.

This document cancels and replaces the second edition of IEC 60601-1-2, and constitutes a technical revision.