

# Health Care Occupancy Changes to the 2009 NFPA 101 Life Safety Code

Presented by:  
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## About the Presenter

**Kevin Abbasse, NFPA / ICC FI II, PE I**

- o NFPA & ICC Certified Fire Inspector Level II
- o NFPA & ICC Certified Plans Examiner Level I
- o Owner, Fire Safety 2000 (Consultant)
- o Structural Life Safety Systems Manager, Eastern Michigan University
- o Fire Marshal, City of Kentwood; Retired
- o Michigan Fire Inspectors Society; President

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## General Outline

Understand the new code changes and impact

Discuss CMS and Joint Commission issues around updating to the current edition from 2000 edition

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### Table 18.4.3.2 & 19.4.3.2

Changes to coordinate NFPA 101 with NFPA 5000 for the use of terms:

- Grade Plane,
- Level of Exit Discharge,
- Total Number of Stories and
- Basements

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### Proposed Changes in the ROC for Healthcare

Sections 18.1.1.1.5 and 19.1.1.1.5

Detention & Security needs are valid. Safety needs for infants, pediatrics and civil disorder are allowed

Healthcare occupancies are allowed to lock the means of egress.

Staff must be present at all times to unlock the means of egress.

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### Sections 18.1.2.2 & 19.1.2.2

Clarification for 2 hour separation:

2 hour wall must comply with Section 8.2.1.3 for separation of construction types

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Locks –  
Sections 18.2.2.2.4(4) and 19.2.2.2.4(4)

These new section allow the automatic release of locked doors on smoke detection or automatic sprinkler water flow activations.

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Delayed Egress Devices –  
Sections 18.2.2.2.4 (2) and 19.2.2.2.4(2)

The code deleted the limitation of one (1) delayed egress device in the means of egress for healthcare

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Security Locking –  
Sections 18.2.2.2.5, 18.2.2.2.6, 19.2.2.2.5 and 19.2.2.2.6

These sections state how to do security locking based on:

- Staff must be able to unlock at all times
- Smoke detection throughout the secured area
- Building is fully sprinklered
- Locks failsafe (release)
- Smoke detection or sprinkler activation will release the locks

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Suite Separations –  
Sections 18.2.5.7.1.2 and 19.2.5.7.1.2

Clarification has been proposed to state:

The separation between suites are required to be the same as the corridor wall construction.

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Section 18.2.5.7.3(B) and 9.2.5.7.3(B)

Clarification for the allowance for suites larger than 5,000 square feet but less than 7,500 square feet.

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Sections 18.3.2.6(3) and 19.3.2.6(3)

Aerosol containers of Alcohol Based Hand Rubs are limited to 18 oz. and shall be Level 1 aerosols per NFPA 30B.

Not more than 1,135 oz. shall be outside storage cabinets in a smoke zone.

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Sections 18.3.2.6(6) and 19.3.2.6 (6)

Separation of ABHR dispensers:

- 1 inch to each side above an ignition source
- 1 inch to each side to an ignition source
- 1 inch beneath an ignition source

This modifies the previous "over or directly adjacent", no technical justification for the change.

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Hazardous Area Change Tables –  
Sections 18.3.2.1 and 19.3.2.1

Revisions:

- Soiled linen greater than 64 gallons – 1 hour.
- Trash greater than 64 gallons – 1 hour.

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New Sections 18.3.6.3.7 and 19.3.6.3.7

Power doors complying with 7.2.1.9 are not required to latch provided the doors can be kept closed if a force of 5 pounds is applied in the direction to open the door (swing or sliding).

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Dead Ends in Existing Buildings –  
Section 19.2.5.2

Existing dead ends must be limited to 30 feet unless impractical or unfeasible to correct.

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Retrofit Automatic Sprinklers for Existing High Rise –  
Section 19.4.2

Owners shall have 12 years from the adoption of this code to have existing high rise healthcare occupancies fully sprinklered.

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Mobile Soiled Linen and Trash Collection Containers –  
Section 18.7.5.7(3)

Mobile soiled linen and trash collection containers larger than 32 gallons must be in a room protected as a hazardous area.

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Travel Distance –  
Sections 18.2.6.2 and 19.2.6.2

New Construction:

- Maximum 200 feet from any point in the building.
- Maximum 50 feet in a patient room.

Existing:

- Maximum 150 feet in non-sprinklered and 200 feet in sprinklered.
- Maximum 50 feet in patient room.

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New Suite Designations –  
Sections 18.2.5.6.4 and 19.2.5.6.4

New non-patient suites added to sleeping suites and non-sleeping suites.

Travel distance in the suite is increased to 200 feet.

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Ambulatory Care Smoke Barriers  
Section 20.3.7.12

New section requires vision panels in smoke barrier doors.

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Questions

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