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- 10 years in Healthcare in Midwest
 - Roles: Facilities Technician, Safety Manager, Facilities Manager
 - Chair for Environment of Care Committee
 - Survey readiness/corrective actions for Physical Environment
 - Quality Oversight Committee
 - Mock Surveys
 - Joined TJC Standards Interpretation Group (SIG) in 2021
 - Interpretation guidance, survey guidance for both organizations and surveyors.
 - Survey report review
 - Time limited waivers and equivalencies
 - Training and education for Environment of Care and Life Safety requirements, NFPA 101 and 99

The Joint Commission EC/LS Common Findings for Ambulatory

The Joint Commission

Common EC/LS Observations

- The organization labels utility system controls to facilitate partial or complete emergency shutdowns. (EC.02.05.01 EP9)
- Interior spaces meet the needs of the patient population and are safe and suitable to the care, treatment, or services provided. (EC.02.06.01 EP1)
- The ventilation system provides appropriate pressure relationships, air-exchange rates, filtration efficiencies, relative humidity, and temperature (EC.02.05.01 EP7)
- The space around pipes, conduits, bus ducts, cables, wires, air ducts, or pneumatic tubes penetrating the walls or floors are protected with an approved fire-rated material. (LS.03.01.10.Ep10)
- Documentation of maintenance, testing, and inspection activities for EC.02.03.05, EPs 1–20, 25. (including fire alarm and fire protection features) (EC.02.03.05.Ep28)

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Common EC/LS Observations

- The organization inspects, tests, and maintains the following: Utility systems. The completion dates and test results are documented. (EC.02.05.05.Ep3)
- Automatic sprinkler system piping is not permitted to be used to support any other items (LS.03.01.35.Ep4)
- Every week, the organization inspects the emergency power supply system (EPSS), including all associated components and batteries. The results and completion dates of the inspections are documented. (EC.02.05.07.Ep4)
- The organization minimizes risks associated with selecting, handling, storing, transporting, using, and disposing of hazardous chemicals. (EC.02.02.01 EP5)
- The organization meets requirements for fire alarm systems. (LS.03.01.34.Ep10)

Additional Resources

- For document review, the Survey Activity Guide includes a “*Life Safety and Environment of Care—Document List and Review Tool*”
 - This resource is located on The Joint Commission website at [_https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/resources/patient-safety-topics/physical-environment/hosp_critaccesshosp_life_safety_ec_documentlist_reviewtool.pdf](https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/resources/patient-safety-topics/physical-environment/hosp_critaccesshosp_life_safety_ec_documentlist_reviewtool.pdf)
 - Building tour guide: https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/resources/patient-safety-topics/physical-environment/life-safety-code/building_tour_guidance1.pdf
 - Additional Ambulatory Health Care Survey Guidance: <https://www.jointcommission.org/what-we-offer/accreditation/health-care-settings/ambulatory-health-care/prepare/snapshot-of-survey-day/>

Additional Resources

- FAQs
- Sales Force
- Perspectives
- EC News



Final Thoughts on Surveys

Conduct Mock Surveys!

- Environment of Care rounds
- Document review
- Building tours
- Designate someone to follow up