

From CMS CoP 482.41 (a) Interpretive Guidelines on Power Strips

Life Safety Code surveyors assess the use of power strips in healthcare facilities. However, the following guidance is provided as reference for healthcare surveyors as they survey physical environment along with other CoP requirements. Any observed power strip deficiencies should be conveyed to the LSC surveyors for citation.

If line-operated medical equipment is used in a patient care room/area, **inside** the patient care vicinity:

- UL power strips would have to be a permanent component of a rack-, table-, pedestal-, or cart-mounted & tested medical equipment assembly
- Power strips providing power to medical equipment in a patient care room/area must be UL 1363A or UL 60601-1
- Power strips cannot be used for non-medical equipment

If line-operated medical equipment is used in a patient care room/area, **outside** the patient care vicinity:

- UL power strips could be used for medical & non-medical equipment with precautions as described in the memo
- Power strips providing power to medical equipment in a patient care room/area must be UL 1363A or UL 60601-1
- Power strips providing power to non-medical equipment in a patient care room/area must be UL 1363

If line-operated medical equipment is **not** used in a patient care room/area, inside and outside the patient care vicinity:

- UL power strips could be used with precautions

Power strips providing power to non-medical equipment in a patient care room/area must be UL 1363. In non-patient care areas/rooms, other UL strips could be used with the general precautions.