

**OLIVE VIEW-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY
POLICY & PROCEDURE**

**NUMBER: 455
VERSION: 5**

SUBJECT/TITLE: 056-EQUIPMENT SAFETY

POLICY: Equipment safety

PURPOSE: To define standard of care for equipment safety.

DEPARTMENTS: ANESTHESIOLOGY

DEFINITIONS: Equipment refers to items utilized by the Department of Anesthesiology in the provision of anesthesia care. This includes anesthesia machines and monitors, laryngoscopes, pumps, airway equipment, ultrasound equipment, diagnostic and therapeutic devices.

PROCEDURE: In addition to the statements on equipment in the Policy on Patient Safety, the following procedures are in effect:

1. Equipment should be ready to perform safely and as intended by the manufacturer;
2. The Manufacturer's Instructions for Use (IFU) will be referenced for Equipment.
3. All anesthesia machines will be checked per the manufacturers recommendations and records kept of the service provided.
4. When the Anesthesia machine is to be used, a daily check of the anesthesia machine is required.
5. An anesthesia machine that demonstrates a malfunction will not be used on a patient until repaired. It will be properly labeled and removed from the work area.
6. All monitors will be checked per the manufacturer's recommendations and records kept of the service provided.
7. Vaporizers will be calibrated yearly (and cleaned, as needed), per the manufacturers recommendations. A check calibration is done during the semiannual maintenance.
8. A monitoring program to measure occupational exposure to anesthetic waste gases is required by several regulatory agencies such as OSHA, NIOSH, the American Hospital Association (AHA) and The Joint Commission.

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Levels of inhalational agents and N₂O will be monitored according to standards of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, and records of this kept in the department. Appropriate action will be taken if levels are above OSHA requirements ¹.

References: OSHA Requirement: The Occupational Safety and Health Act requires employers to comply with hazard-specific safety and health standards.	
Source: Anesthetic Gases: Guidelines for Workplace Exposures: OSHA Directorate of Technical Support and Emergency Management [formerly Directorate of Technical Support] July 20, 1999; Revised May 18, 2000	
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