

*VALLEYCARE*  
**OLIVE VIEW-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER/HEALTH CENTERS**  
**DEPARTMENT: FACILITIES**  
**POLICY & PROCEDURE**

**NUMBER: 662**  
**VERSION: 1**

**SUBJECT/TITLE:** VACUUM SYSTEMS -PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

**POLICY:** The medical/surgical vacuum system will be maintained in a manner designed to provide a safe level of operation for all required medical and surgical needs. The supervisor of the Plumbing Shop is responsible for assuring that the system is maintained in the proper manner.

**PURPOSE:**

**DEPARTMENTS:** FACILITIES

**DEFINITIONS:**

**PROCEDURE:** The Vacuum System is monitored daily by the Plumbing Shop and continuously by the BEAS room. The vacuum system is monitored by reading the line vacuum in the Co-Generation Plant. Normal line vacuum is between 15 and 22 inches of mercury vacuum.

Alarm panels are actuated (audible & visual) above 25 or below 15 inches of mercury vacuum. A vacuum flow 15 C.F.M. must be maintained at each outlet at all times, a log is kept to insure a constant supply of vacuum to the hospital at all times and to help in locating problems, such as leaks in the system.

The functioning of the vacuum system will be checked once a day. Readings will be taken on the vacuum pumps and the pumps will be run manually.

All readings will be noted in the appropriate log.

Any readings, which fall outside of the normal ranges, will be noted and corrective action will be taken immediately.

Minimum Vacuum and Operating Range -The vacuum pumps and collection piping shall be capable of maintaining a vacuum of 12 in. of mercury (Hg) at the station inlet farthest away from the vacuum source when the calculated demand for the hospital is drawn in the system. An operating range of 15 in. to 22 in. Hg is maintained at the receiver.

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References:	
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