

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Medical electrical equipment –
Part 2-37: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance
of ultrasonic medical diagnostic and monitoring equipment**

**Appareils électromédicaux –
Partie 2-37: Exigences particulières pour la sécurité de base et les performances
essentielle des appareils de diagnostic et de surveillance médicaux à ultrasons**



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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
INTRODUCTION.....	7
201.1 Scope, object and related standards	8
201.2 Normative references.....	10
201.3 Terms and definitions.....	10
201.4 General requirements	17
201.5 General requirements for testing ME EQUIPMENT	18
201.6 Classification of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS	18
201.7 ME EQUIPMENT identification, marking and documents	18
201.8 Protection against electrical HAZARDS from ME EQUIPMENT	23
201.9 Protection against MECHANICAL HAZARDS of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS.....	23
201.10 Protection against unwanted and excessive radiation HAZARDS	23
201.11 Protection against excessive temperatures and other HAZARDS	24
201.12 Accuracy of controls and instruments and protection against hazardous outputs	29
201.13 HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS and fault conditions for ME EQUIPMENT	31
201.14 PROGRAMMABLE ELECTRICAL MEDICAL SYSTEMS (PEMS)	31
201.15 Construction of ME EQUIPMENT	31
201.16 ME SYSTEMS.....	31
201.17 *Electromagnetic compatibility of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS	31
202 ELECTROMAGNETIC DISTURBANCES – Requirements and tests.....	31
212 Requirements for medical electrical equipment and medical electrical systems intended for use in the emergency medical services environment (EMS)	33
Annexes	34
Annex AA (informative) Particular guidance and rationale	35
Annex BB (informative) Guidance in classification according to CISPR 11	43
Annex CC (informative) Guidance to the MANUFACTURER on the interpretation of <i>Tl</i> and <i>Ml</i> to be used to inform the OPERATOR.....	44
Annex DD (informative) Example set-up to measure surface temperature of externally applied TRANSDUCER ASSEMBLIES	48
Annex EE (informative) Acoustic output table intended for third parties.....	51
Bibliography.....	54
Index of defined terms	58
Figure AA.1 – Method a) for an external probe.....	38
Figure AA.2 – Method b) for an external probe.....	39
Figure AA.3 – Method b) for an external probe.....	39
Figure DD.1 – Set-up of an example test object to measure the surface temperature of externally applied transducers	50
Table 201.101 – List of symbols.....	16
Table 201.102 – Distributed essential performance requirements	18

Table 201.103 – Acoustic output reporting table 22

Table 201.104 – Overview of the tests noted under 201.11.1.3 28

Table CC.1 – Relative importance of maintaining low exposure indices in various scanning situations 46

Table DD.1 – Acoustic and thermal properties of tissues and materials..... 48

Table DD.2 – Weight % pure components 49

Table EE.1 – Example of acoustic output table for third parties 52

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –**Part 2-37: Particular requirements for the basic safety
and essential performance of ultrasonic medical
diagnostic and monitoring equipment**

FOREWORD

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IEC 60601-2-37 has been prepared by subcommittee 62B: Medical imaging equipment, software, and systems, of IEC technical committee 62: Medical equipment, software, and systems. It is an International Standard.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2007 and Amendment 1:2015. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) technical and editorial changes resulting from the amended general standard IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 and its collateral standards IEC 60601-1-xx,

- b) technical and editorial changes as a result of maintenance to normative references;
- c) technical and editorial changes resulting from relevant developments in TC 87 Ultrasonics standards. In particular, Clause 201.11 about protection against excessive temperatures and other hazards has been fully revised.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
62B/1318/CDV	62B/1348/RVC

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

In this document, the following print types are used:

- requirements and definitions: roman type.
- *test specifications: italic type.*
- informative material appearing outside of tables, such as notes, examples and references: in smaller type. Normative text of tables is also in a smaller type.
- TERMS DEFINED IN CLAUSE 3 OF IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020, IN THIS DOCUMENT OR AS NOTED: SMALL CAPITALS.

In referring to the structure of this document, the term

- "clause" means one of the seventeen numbered divisions within the table of contents, inclusive of all subdivisions (e.g. Clause 7 includes subclauses 7.1, 7.2, etc.);
- "subclause" means a numbered subdivision of a clause (e.g. 7.1, 7.2 and 7.2.1 are all subclauses of Clause 7).

References to clauses within this document are preceded by the term "Clause" followed by the clause number. References to subclauses within this document are by number only.

In this document, the conjunctive "or" is used as an "inclusive or" so a statement is true if any combination of the conditions is true.

The verbal forms used in this document conform to usage described in Clause 7 of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. For the purposes of this document, the auxiliary verb:

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An asterisk (*) as the first character of a title or at the beginning of a paragraph or table title indicates that there is guidance or rationale related to that item in Annex AA.

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INTRODUCTION

In this document, safety requirements additional to those in IEC 60601-1:2005, IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012, and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD2:2020 are specified for ULTRASONIC DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT.

A general guidance and rationale for the requirements of this document are given in Annex AA.

Knowledge of the reasons for these requirements will not only facilitate the proper application of this document but will, in due course, expedite any revision necessitated by changes in clinical practice or as a result of developments in technology.

The approach and philosophy used in drafting this document for safety of ULTRASONIC DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT are consistent with those in standards of the IEC 60601-2 series that apply to other diagnostic modalities, such as X-ray equipment and magnetic resonance systems.

In each case, the safety standard is intended to require increasing sophistication of output display indicators and controls with increasing energy levels in the interrogating field of diagnosis. Thus, for all such diagnostic modalities, it is the responsibility of the OPERATOR to understand the risk of the output of the ULTRASONIC DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT, and to act appropriately in order to obtain the needed diagnostic information with the minimum risk to the PATIENT.