

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Medical electrical equipment –
Part 2-66: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance
of hearing instruments and hearing instrument systems**

**Appareils électromédicaux –
Partie 2-66: Exigences particulières pour la sécurité de base et les performances
essentielles des instruments d'audition et systèmes d'audition**



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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
INTRODUCTION.....	5
201.1 Scope, object and related standards.....	6
201.2 Normative references.....	8
201.3 Terms and definitions.....	8
201.4 General requirements.....	10
201.5 General requirements for testing ME EQUIPMENT.....	10
201.6 Classification of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS.....	12
201.7 ME EQUIPMENT identification, marking and documents.....	13
201.8 *Protection against electrical HAZARDS from ME EQUIPMENT.....	18
201.9 *Protection against MECHANICAL HAZARDS of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS.....	21
201.10 Protection against unwanted and excessive radiation HAZARDS.....	23
201.11 *Protection against excessive temperatures and other HAZARDS.....	23
201.12 *Accuracy of controls and instruments and protection against hazardous outputs.....	24
201.13 *HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS and fault conditions for ME EQUIPMENT.....	25
201.14 *PROGRAMMABLE ELECTRICAL MEDICAL SYSTEMS (PEMS).....	28
201.15 *Construction of ME EQUIPMENT.....	29
201.16 *ME SYSTEMS.....	31
201.17 *Electromagnetic compatibility of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS.....	31
Annexes.....	32
Annex E (informative) Examples of the connection of the measuring device (MD) for measurement of THE PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT and PATIENT AUXILIARY CURRENT.....	32
Annex G (normative) Protection against HAZARDS of ignition of flammable anaesthetic mixtures.....	32
Annex H (informative) PEMS structure, PEMS DEVELOPMENT LIFE-CYCLE and documentation.....	32
Annex I (informative) ME SYSTEMS aspects.....	32
Annex J (informative) Survey of insulation paths.....	32
Annex K (informative) Simplified PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT diagrams.....	33
Annex L (normative) Insulated winding wires for use without interleaved insulation.....	33
Annex AA (informative) Particular guidance and rationale.....	34
Annex BB (informative) Abbreviations.....	39
Bibliography.....	40
Index of defined terms used in this particular standard.....	41
Figure 201.101 – Measuring circuit for LEAKAGE CURRENT.....	20
Table 201.102 – MECHANICAL HAZARDS to be considered.....	21
Table AA.101 – Summary of the approach of this standard.....	35

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –

Part 2-66: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance of hearing instruments and hearing instrument systems

FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
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International Standard IEC 60601-2-66 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 29: Electroacoustics.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2012. It constitutes a technical revision to adapt IEC 60601-2-66:2012 to the technical corrections introduced by Amendment 1 (2012) to IEC 60601-1:2005, as well as to clarify and correct the wording of this particular standard and to implement minor changes requested by interested parties.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
29/851/FDIS	29/869/RVD

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

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

In this standard, 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 THE GENERAL STANDARD, IN THIS PARTICULAR STANDARD OR AS NOTED: SMALL CAPITALS.

In referring to the structure of this standard, 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 7.3.1 are all subclauses of Clause 7).

References to clauses within this standard are preceded by the term “Clause” followed by the clause number. References to subclauses within this particular standard are by number only.

In this standard, 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 standard conform to usage described in Annex H of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. For the purposes of this standard, the auxiliary verb:

- “shall” means that compliance with a requirement or a test is mandatory for compliance with this standard;
- “should” means that compliance with a requirement or a test is recommended but is not mandatory for compliance with this standard;
- “may” is used to describe a permissible way to achieve compliance with a requirement or test.

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.

A list of all parts of the IEC 60601 series, published under the general title *Medical electrical equipment*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reaffirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

INTRODUCTION

In 1998 the HEARING INSTRUMENT industry represented by the EHIMA attempted to establish a standard with the main purpose of providing manufacturers with a guide to demonstrate conformity with the European Medical Devices Directive 93/42/EEC.

The document prEN 50220 failed CENELEC vote and was published as “EHIMA standard” in June 1998 with almost identical content. EHIMA concluded in 2009 that the requirements of that standard were no longer up to date and an internationally accepted standard for HEARING INSTRUMENT safety published by IEC or ISO to demonstrate compliance with regulatory requirements should be produced.

This resulting IEC standard amends and supplements IEC 60601-1 (third edition, 2005), Medical electrical equipment – Part 1: General requirements for safety and essential performance, hereinafter referred to as ‘the general standard’.

Figures in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –

Part 2-66: Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance of hearing instruments and hearing instrument systems

201.1 Scope, object and related standards

Clause 1 of the general standard¹ applies, except as follows:

201.1.1 * Scope

Replacement:

This International Standard applies to the BASIC SAFETY of HEARING INSTRUMENTS and HEARING INSTRUMENT SYSTEMS, hereafter also referred to as ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEM.

If a clause or subclause is specifically intended to be applicable to HEARING INSTRUMENTS only, or to HEARING INSTRUMENT SYSTEMS only, the title and content of that clause or subclause will say so. If that is not the case, the clause or subclause applies both to HEARING INSTRUMENTS and to HEARING INSTRUMENT SYSTEMS, as relevant.

HAZARDS inherent in the intended physiological function of HEARING INSTRUMENTS or HEARING INSTRUMENT SYSTEMS within the scope of this standard are not covered by specific requirements in this standard except in 201.7.9.2 and 201.9.6.

NOTE See also 201.4.2. (RISK MANAGEMENT).

ACCESSORIES to HEARING INSTRUMENTS in the HOME HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT (e.g. remote control units, audio streamers, battery chargers, power supplies) are covered by the most applicable standard, IEC 60065, IEC 60950-1 or other applicable IEC safety standards. Alternatively the general standard may be applied. HEARING INSTRUMENTS do not have a MAINS PART intended for connection to a.c. SUPPLY MAINS. The connection to the SUPPLY MAINS of a HEARING INSTRUMENT system is covered by power supply, charger or other types of ACCESSORIES.

ACCESSORIES connected to a HEARING INSTRUMENT may form a HEARING INSTRUMENT SYSTEM. Only the HEARING INSTRUMENT and its detachable parts are subject to all applicable clauses of this particular standard. The remaining components of the HEARING INSTRUMENT SYSTEM are subject to requirements of this particular standard that result from their connection to the HEARING INSTRUMENT SYSTEM.

Programming interfaces or ACCESSORIES in a clinical application are covered by the general standard.

NOTE Detachable parts of HEARING INSTRUMENTS even if supplied separately (e.g. ear hooks, domes, wax guards etc.), are not regarded as ACCESSORIES.

This standard does not apply to:

- cochlear implants or other implanted HEARING INSTRUMENTS;
- bone conduction HEARING INSTRUMENTS;

¹ The general standard is IEC 60601-1:2005+A1:2012, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance.*