**POLICY:**

The ventilation system will ensure that a controlled and regularly inspected filtered air supply is provided in the facility, as designated below.

**DEFINITIONS:**

* Procedure Room (Class A surgery): Provides minor surgical procedures performed under topical, local, or regional anesthesia without preoperative sedation. Excluded are intravenous, spinal, and epidural procedures, which are Class B or C surgeries.
* Operating Room (Class B surgery): Provides minor or major surgical procedures performed in conjunction with oral, parenteral, or intravenous sedation or performed with the patient under analgesic or dissociative drugs.
* Operating Room (Class C surgery): Provides major surgical procedures that require general or regional block anesthesia and/or support of vital bodily features.

**PROCEDURE:**

Temperature and humidity will be maintained at the recommended levels:

* Operating Room (Class B and C)
* Temperature of 68 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit
* Humidity of 20% to 60%
* Procedure Room (Class A)
* Temperature of 70 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit
* Humidity of 20% to 60%
* Clean Utility (clean workroom)
* Temperature of 68 to 73 degrees Fahrenheit
* Humidity maximum 60%
* Sterile Storage
* Temperature maximum of 75 degrees Fahrenheit
* Humidity maximum of 60%
* Soiled Utility (decontamination room)
  + Temperature of 60 to 73 degrees Fahrenheit
* PACU
* Temperature of 70 and 75 degrees Fahrenheit
* Humidity of 20 to 60%

The operating room (OR) humidity level must be appropriate for the surgical and anesthesia equipment and supplies stored in the OR. Supplies, which require a different level of humidity per manufacturer Directions for Use (DFU) may be stored outside of the OR until they are used. Personnel will be aware of DFUs specific to OR equipment and supplies, and in particular know what environmental humidity requirements are specified in the DFUs.

These temperature and humidity parameters will be monitored and logged daily.

If adjustments are necessary to maintain the specified levels, the parameters will be rechecked to ensure compliance and noted in the log.

Emergency power source will be sufficient to provide necessary lighting and power when usual electrical supply is interrupted.

Air flow will be maintained at the recommended levels:

* The restricted area should have a positive pressure relationship to the adjacent areas
* The pressure relationship of the semi-restricted area to the adjacent area should be based on the use of the area:
  + Operating room – positive
  + Procedure room – positive
  + Clean/sterile storage – positive
  + Soiled workroom/decontamination room – negative
  + Sterilizer equipment access – negative
* Since the OR is the cleanest environment in the facility, all adjacent rooms should be negative to the OR.

These parameters should be monitored and logged monthly to ensure proper pressure. An annual air balance test should be completed by contracted vendor and kept on file.

**Source:** AORN Guideline for a Safe Environment of Care, Part 2 (based on the FGI Guidelines, CMS Appendix A, and ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standards)

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| **Date** | **OR T/H** | **PR T/H** | **Clean Utility T/H** | **Sterile Storage T/H** | **Soiled Utility T** | **PACU T/H** | **Action** |
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**IMPORTANT:** If the required levels differentiate from the recommended range, per facility policy, please make the necessary adjustments. If you are unable to obtain or adjust the levels to the recommended temperature and/or humidity, please contact your Clinical Director.

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| Points | Location | Adjacent Space | Required Directional Flow | Measured Directional Flow | Corrective Action |
| 1 | Operating Room 1 |  | Positive |  |  |
| 2 | Operating Room 2 |  | Positive |  |  |
| 3 | Procedure Room 1 |  | Positive |  |  |
| 4 | Procedure Room 2 |  | Positive |  |  |
| 5 | Sterile Storage |  | Positive |  |  |
| 6 | Clean Utility |  | Positive |  |  |
| 7 | Soiled Utility |  | Negative |  |  |
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\*Since the OR is the cleanest environment in the facility, all adjacent rooms should be negative to the OR.