

ENGINEERING, FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND PROCUREMENT

Biomedical Equipment Maintenance

ECRI Publications – How long should they be maintained?

It has come to our attention that there is unclear guidance on how long ECRI publications should be maintained. Understanding that space is at a premium these days, we are making the following recommendations:

- ◆ Health Devices©, in any format should be maintained for five (5) years
- ◆ Health Device Alert Action Items, Abstracts, Implants, and FDA Data should be maintained for the current calendar year and the previous two calendar years
- ◆ All other ECRI publications should be maintained for two years.

AFMLO currently has a library containing most of the aforementioned publications dating back to 1981. Furthermore, the ECRI subscription allows you the opportunity to call on information on particular hazards or equipment problems. The ECRI number is 610-825-1275. (AFMLO/FOM-E, TSgt Stephen M. Walker, DSN 343-4039)

Year 2000 (Y2K)

Y2K Code Additions and Manufacturer Updates

Responding to input from the field, AFMLO has added two new compliance classes to aid in completing your assessment. These codes, "F" and "G", will indicate equipment still being assessed by the manufacturer and manufacturers that cannot be located or have gone out of business. These two codes are **mandatory** for equipment falling into these categories. Below is a complete list of the recommended codes.

Equipment Class	Definition	Compliance Class	Definition
1	High Risk (Direct Life Support or Mission Critical)	A	Y2K Compliant (or Not Applicable)
2	Medium Risk	B	Y2K Compliant Mfg. Upgraded (+Date+cost)
3	Low Risk	C	Not Y2K Compliant, Mfg. Upgrade Scheduled (+date +cost)
4	Non-Critical	D	Y2K Compliant with Mfg. work around. See letter in EDF
5	Non-Applicable	E	Not Y2K compliant. No upgrade available. Replacement action initiated (+date)
		F	Manufacturer has not completed assessment of their equipment.
		G	Manufacturer cannot be located or has gone out of business.

If you are just beginning your assessment, Wright Patterson has suggested a system that should speed up the annotation process. Using a code (*equipment class + compliance class*) to indicate Y2K compliance, bases should be able to update the individual records faster. If this method is chosen, please ensure that the data is entered into the Tech Notes field as follows: [space] **code** [space] **Y2K** [space] **Date** to be updated/replaced [space] **upgrade cost** (i.e. 1A Y2K or 1B Y2K 4/11/99 \$750.00).

If you do not use this method, all non-affected equipment (treatment tables, manual beds, etc.) should have "Y2K Compliant" entered in the Tech Notes. In the event that you have already completed assessment of a large percentage of your inventory, it will NOT be necessary to go back and reenter this statement.

AFMLO points of contact for Clinical Equipment related Y2K issues are:

Mr. Dave Baker DSN 343-7487
bakerd@ftdetrck-ccmail.army.mil

TSgt. Stephen Walker DSN 343-4039
walkers@ftdetrck-ccmail.army.mil

(AFMLO/FOM-E, TSgt Stephen Walker, DSN 343-4039)

Year 2000 Guidance on Excess Equipment

When reporting excess equipment for redistribution do not report equipment that is not Year 2000 compliant (Y2K) and/or cannot be upgraded to Year 2000 standards. All excess non-upgradeable equipment should be rendered inoperable by the appropriate Military Service Biomedical Equipment Repair Technician, tagged "Suspended from Use - Inoperable due to Year 2000 noncompliance", then turned in to Defense Reutilization Marketing Office immediately. Prior to requesting any piece of equipment contact the reporting activity to check the Y2K status of the equipment. If the equipment can be upgraded the requesting activity will be responsible for the upgrade costs. (AFMLO/FOM-P, Capt Troy Molnar, DSN 343-4028)

Quality Assurance

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Recalls/Alert Notices

Attachment 2, paragraph 1, provides information on FDA medical equipment recalls and alerts. Personnel from clinical engineering, biomedical equipment maintenance, quality assurance, and safety should follow the guidance provided to ensure the effective maintenance and management of medical equipment. (AFMLO/FOM, Mr. David Baker, DSN 343-7487)

Medical Equipment Management

Excess Equipment Items Available

Howard AFB PN has 375 equipment items available for redistribution to Air Force units only. These items will be available for redistribution beginning in April 99, through September 99. To request equipment items contact Mr Kenton Campbell (Howard AFB) directly at DSN (313) 284-5150/5150 or commecial 011-507-284-5150/5151 or by e-mail: campbekr@howasg01.howard.af.mil. Before requesting items ensure the items are Year 2000 compliant. Additionally, if multiple bases request the same item, shipment will be made to the closest base. Shipment costs are the responsibility of the requesting activity. (AFMLO/FOM-P, Capt Troy Molnar, DSN 343-4028)

Shared Procurement Equipment Items Currently Available

AFMLL 04-97, Attachment 1, pages 1 and 2, contains a list of all current Shared Procurement contracts and optional contracts available through the Defense Personnel Support Center (DPSC). If you plan to order any of these items for your facility, use the specific ordering instructions and overall program guidance contained in AFMLL 04-96, pages CE-4 and CE-5. (AFMLO/FOM-P, Capt Albert Bainger, DSN 343-4168)

“Piggyback” Contracts Currently Available

AFMLL 16-96, Attachment 1, pages 4 and 5, contains a list of all current “piggyback” contracts currently available through DPSC. These contracts will allow facilities to “piggyback” requirements onto existing orders placed for specific quantities. Many of these contracts are designed to buy large quantities at reduced prices, and are written with the option of buying additional quantities at the same price. The list includes available quantities and “Order By” dates. To order, send your MILSTRIP requisitions to DPSC, and reference the contract number (from the listing) in the notes section. (AFMLO/FOM-P, Capt Albert Bainger, DSN 343-4168)

WILLIAM H. HILL
Deputy Chief, Air Force Medical Logistics Office