



Minnesota's Surgical Smoke Evacuation Law

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Why do we need a law to evacuate surgical smoke?

- Workplace Safety
- Workforce Retention
- Voluntary Compliance Doesn't Work
- No National or Statewide Enforceable Requirements

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2024 Legislation



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What's in the Minnesota law?

Every hospital, ASC, and outpatient surgery center must adopt and implement policies to prevent exposure to surgical smoke by requiring the use of a smoke evacuation system during any surgical procedures likely to generate surgical smoke.



The Department of Labor and Industry/Minnesota OSHA will ensure compliance.

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Compliance Considerations

Facility Policy

- How will your facility ensure compliance?
- How will your facility handle non-compliance internally?

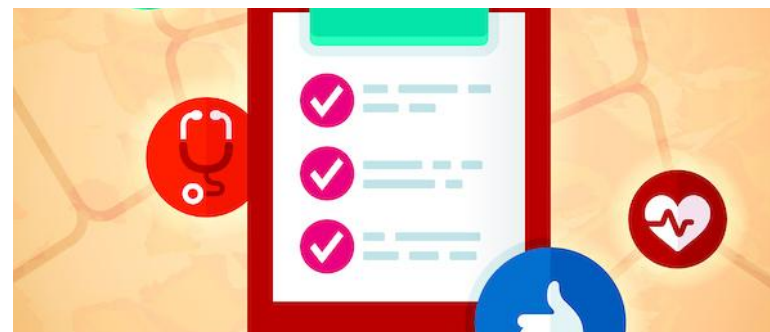
Minnesota OSHA

- Non-compliance may be reported externally to MN OSHA.
- MN OSHA may issue fines for repeated or willful violations.

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SURGICAL SMOKE SAFETY

GUIDELINE FOR SURGICAL SMOKE SAFETY

Purpose:
This document provides guidance on surgical smoke safety procedures to support the perioperative team in maintaining a safe environment for both surgical patients and team members through consistent use of control measures.

Surgical smoke is the byproduct and residue of the use of surgical energy devices (e.g., electrocautery, ultrasonic, bipolar, and other energy devices) that are used to cut, coagulate, and seal tissue. It is a complex mixture of smoke, steam, and other byproducts. It is a known irritant and can cause respiratory distress, eye irritation, and other health effects. The purpose of this guideline is to provide the perioperative team with the information they need to maintain a safe environment for both surgical patients and team members through consistent use of control measures.

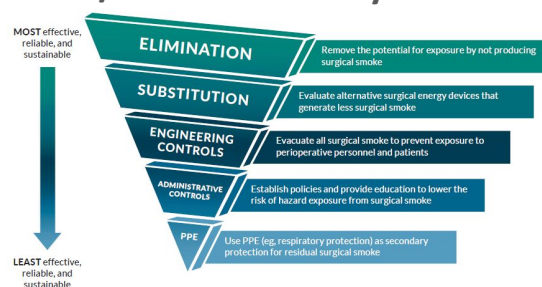
This document provides guidance on surgical smoke safety procedures to support the perioperative team in maintaining a safe environment for both surgical patients and team members through consistent use of control measures. It includes information on the hazards of surgical smoke, the types of surgical energy devices that produce smoke, and the control measures that can be used to reduce the risk of exposure to surgical smoke. The guideline is intended to be used in conjunction with other safety protocols and procedures that are in place at the facility.



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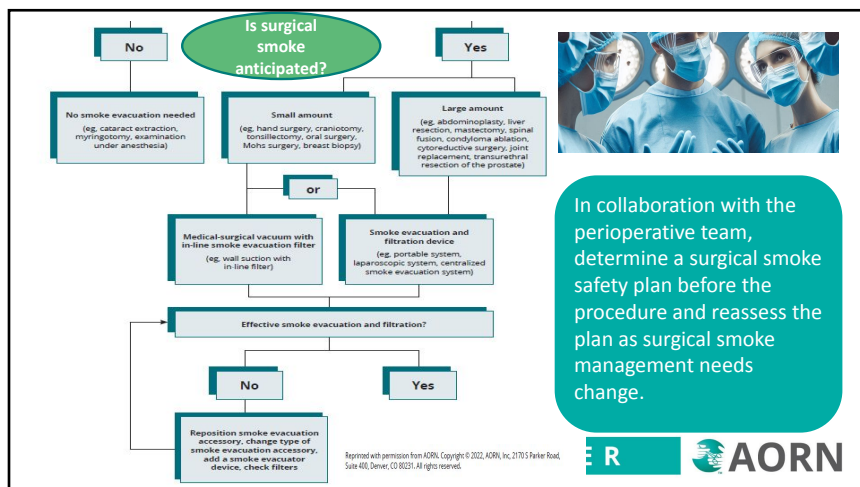
CDC/NIOSH Hierarchy of Controls



AORN Guideline recommendation: Use the OSHA-endorsed CDC/NIOSH hierarchy of controls to reduce the perioperative team's exposure to surgical smoke and establish safe practices

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Questions?

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