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# Flow control devices for connection to a medical gas supply system

*Dispositifs de contrôle du débit pour raccordement à un système d'alimentation en gaz médicaux*

Reference number
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# Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 121, *Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Medical gas supply systems*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 15002:2008), which has been technically revised. It also incorporates the Amendment ISO 15002:2008/Amd.1:2018.

The main changes are as follows:

— title changed as the requirements for *flow control devices* are the same regardless of the gas supply and they control the flow, they do not measure the flow;

— layout changed from requirements for each type of *flow control device* to the common requirements as they are the same for each *flow control device*;

— test methods have been rationalised and put into a new Annex C;

— hazard identification list added as a new Annex D;

— the maximum flow that can be achieved when the flow control is opened fully has been included as a marking requirement on the device so that the user will know what could be delivered to the patient. A rationale has also been added to cover this marking requirement;

— a new requirement has been added for stability of setting;

— the environmental conditions have been aligned with IEC 60601-1-12, emergency equipment, as *flow control devices* are used in such environments; and

— the requirement for accuracy has been rationalised for clarity.


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# Introduction

*Flow control devices* are used to administer a prescribed flow of gas to a patient interface device (e.g. nasal cannula, facemask) from a pressure gas source, such as a medical gas supply system. These devices need to deliver accurate flows under varying conditions of temperature and inlet pressures. Therefore, it is important that the performance characteristics be specified and tested in a defined manner.

Annex A provides additional insight into the reasoning that led to the requirements and recommendations that have been incorporated in this document. It is considered that knowledge of the reasons for the requirements will not only facilitate the proper application of this document but will expedite any subsequent revisions.


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# Flow control devices for connection to a medical gas supply system

## 1 Scope

**1.1** This document specifies requirements for *flow control devices* that can be connected by the user either directly, by means of a probe or a *gas-specific* connector, or indirectly by means of a low-pressure hose assembly conforming with ISO 5359 to:

a) a terminal unit conforming with ISO 9170-1 of a medical gas pipeline system conforming with ISO 7396-1:2016;

b) the pressure outlet of a regulator conforming with ISO 10524-1:2018; or

c) to the pressure outlet of a valve integrated pressure regulator (VIPR) conforming with ISO 10524-3 (see 5.2 gas inlets).

**1.2** This document applies to the following types of *flow control devices* (FCDs):

a) *flowmeters*;

b) *flowgauge FCDs*; and

c) *fixed orifice FCDs*.

NOTE *Flow control devices* that are classed as medical electrical equipment can be subject to additional requirements of IEC 60601-1.

**1.3** This document applies to *flow control devices* for the following gases:

— oxygen;

— oxygen 93 %;

— nitrous oxide;

— medical air;

— carbon dioxide;

— oxygen/nitrous oxide mixture 50/50 (% volume fraction);

— oxygen-enriched air;

— helium;

— xenon; and

— specified mixtures of the gases listed above.

NOTE *Flow control devices* can be available for other gases.

**1.4** This document does not apply to *flow control devices* that are:

a) for use with gases for driving surgical tools;

b) an integral part of a regulator (see ISO 10524-1:2018); or

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c) an integral part of a valve with integrated pressure regulator (VIPR) (see ISO 10524-3).

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 32, *Gas cylinders for medical use — Marking for identification of content*

ISO 5359, *Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment — Low-pressure hose assemblies for use with medical gases*

ISO 7396-1:2016, *Medical gas pipeline systems — Part 1: Pipeline systems for compressed medical gases and vacuum*

ISO 9170-1:2017, *Terminal units for medical gas pipeline systems — Part 1: Terminal units for use with compressed medical gases and vacuum*

ISO 10524-1:2018, *Pressure regulators for use with medical gases — Part 1: Pressure regulators and pressure regulators with flow-metering devices*

ISO 10524-3, *Pressure regulators for use with medical gases — Part 3: Pressure regulators integrated with cylinder valves (VIPRs)*

ISO 15001, *Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment — Compatibility with oxygen*

ISO 17256[1)], *Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment — Respiratory therapy tubing and connectors*

ISO 18562-1, *Biocompatibility evaluation of breathing gas pathways in healthcare applications — Part 1: Evaluation and testing within a risk management process*

ISO 20417, *Medical devices — Information to be supplied by the manufacturer*

CGA V5, *Diameter Index Safety System (Non-Interchangeable Low Pressure Connections for Medical Gas Applications)*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

NOTE The terms defined in Clause 3 are delineated throughout this document in *italic font*.

**3.1**
**flow control device**
**FCD**
device that indicates the selected flow of a specific gas

Note 1 to entry: Typical examples of *flow control devices* are given in Annex B, Figure B.1.

1) Under preparation. Stage at the time of publication: ISO/DIS 17256:2023.


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