

Figure 7.1

Electrical hazard detection checklist

This checklist will help your facility minimize potential electrical hazards. Use a qualified electrician to diagnose or repair complicated problems.

Questions	No	Yes	Repaired by (date):
Are outlets overloaded with too many plugs?			
Are the outlets in good condition?			
Are there any switches or outlets that do not work?			
Have any adapters been used to plug in a three-prong plug into a two-prong outlet?			
Are all three-prong plugs intact?			
Are any electrical appliances, devices, or machines used in areas where they might get wet?			
If so, are all the appliances, devices, or machines in the area properly grounded (including housekeeping equipment, vending machines, office equipment, etc.)?			
Do the electrical outlets near sinks have a ground fault circuit interrupter?			
Are all metallic fixed electrical items properly grounded?			
Is the equipment connected by cord and plug properly plugged in?			
Are all portable electrical hand tools unaltered, undamaged, and properly connected?			
Is the wiring to all electrical appliances, devices, and machines properly insulated?			
Are any cords on electrical appliances, devices, or machines frayed? Do they have exposed wires? Are they showing wear?			

Figure 7.1

Electrical hazard detection checklist (cont.)

Questions	No	Yes	Repaired by (date):
Are there any cords strung through doorways or windows, holes in walls or ceilings, or under carpets or rugs that may pose a trip hazard?			
Are any cords, fans, or portable heaters located where they could create a trip hazard?			
Is only one extension cord being used in any single run?			
Are any extension cords being used as permanent wiring instead of fixed wiring?			
Is the use of extension cords being phased out of this facility?			
Are the switches in the electrical breaker box properly marked to identify their function and areas served?			
Are all junction boxes, outlets, switches, and fittings properly covered?			
Are flexible cords or cables fastened so that there is no direct pull on joints or terminal screws?			
Are there any flexible cords and cables attached to building surfaces?			
Are all fans and portable heaters adequately guarded?			

Note: Surgical facilities should use caution where oxygen and flammable gases are used. Remain vigilant when prohibiting the use of portable electric equipment and appliances, such as electric drills, that are unsuitable for use in hazardous areas (e.g., flammable anesthetizing locations) during their occupancy by patients or near anesthesia equipment in operating condition, and in storage locations containing flammable inhalation anesthetic agents.

If in any doubt, contact a certified electrician and read the appropriate manufacturers' instructions.