


**UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION**

Section:	HVAC	Procedure Number:	HVAC-09
Subject:	Air Exchange Rates in Surgical Areas	Effective Date:	January 1980
		Revised Date:	November 2016
Facilities Officer:		Reviewed Date:	February 2023

Standard Operating Procedure

Air rate exchanges in surgical areas will be checked and documented annually.

Purpose

To insure adequate air supply and return air hourly exchange rates per 2006 ASHRAE and AIA design standards for operating rooms.

Procedure

1. Maintain a positive pressure with a minimum of 20 air changes per hour.
2. An air flow meter shall be used to determine the number of air changes per hour in each operating room annually.
3. The air handler serving surgical suites shall contain filters capable of entrapping a minimum of 90% of the particulate found in outside air.
4. A Semi-Annual report summarizing the conditions found in regards to air exchanges in operating rooms shall be presented to Infection Control Committee on an annual basis.
5. In the event minimum air exchange rates are not achieved during testing, remedial actions shall be taken. A rebalance of the air handler will be required to achieve acceptable air exchange rates per AIA and ASHRAE design standards.