

**Interpretation IC 170-2017-2 of
ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2017
Ventilation of Health Care Facilities**

Date Approved: June 25, 2019

Request from: Travis R. English, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, 1800 Harrison Street, Oakland, CA 92510.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements in ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2013, Section 8, regarding application to outpatient facilities.

Background: Standard 170 has traditionally been applied in conjunction with the FGI Guidelines.

The 2018 edition of the FGI **Guidelines for the Design and Construction of Outpatient Facilities** includes the following text to identify where ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170 is applicable:

“2.1-8.2 Heating, Ventilating, and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) Systems

2.1-8.2.1 General

2.1-8.2.1.1 The following facility types, whether standalone or part of a mixed-use facility, shall comply with Part 3 (ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170, Ventilation of Health Care Facilities)

(1) Outpatient Surgical Facilities

(2) Endoscopy Facilities

2.1-8.2.1.2 For the following facility types, whether standalone or part of a mixed-use facility, included room types that are listed in Table .81 of ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170 shall meet the requirements of Standard 170:

(1) Imaging facilities with Class 2 and Class 3 imaging rooms

(2) Infusion facilities

(3) Dialysis facilities

2.1-8.2.1.3 For the following facility types, whether standalone or part of a mixed-use facility, ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170 shall not apply.

(1) General and specialty medical services facilities

(2) Urgent care

(3) Imaging facilities with Class 1 imaging rooms

(4) Outpatient psychiatric facilities

(5) Outpatient rehabilitation facilities

(6) Dental facilities

(7) Birth centers”

In Standard 170-2017, outpatient facility requirements have been separated from inpatient facility requirements in a new Section 8. These requirements of this new section do not distinguish between different types of outpatient facilities.

Interpretation: Section 8 of Standard 170-2017 should be applied consistent with the FGI 2018 Outpatient Guidelines.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes

Comments: SSPC 170 Addendum j (when issued) will help clarify this issue in much greater detail.