

**Interpretation IC 170-2017-11 of  
ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2017  
Ventilation of Health Care Facilities**

Date Approved: January 26, 2021

**Request from:** Heather Platt Gullede, Dewberry Engineers, 2610 Wycliff Rd., Suite 410, Raleigh, NC 27607.

**Reference:** This request for interpretation refers to the requirements in ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2017 and Addendum *n*, Tables 7.1 and 9.1, regarding nonrefrigerated body-holding rooms.

**Background:** Addendum *n* replaced Table 9.1 in the standard, thus removing the nonrefrigerated body-holding room requirements from the standard. The 2018 FGI Residential Guidelines also does not include morgues as part of the document because typically when a patient dies, they are transported to another location via EMS.

The current pandemic (and potential future pandemics) residential care facilities are finding it hard to get transport in a timely manner. Therefore, these facilities have to hold the deceased patient until a funeral home arrives.

**Interpretation:** In emergency conditions such as a pandemic, the guidance from Table 7.1 for Nonrefrigerated body-holding rooms (page 11) should be applied for the residential care facility's room identified for holding until the appropriate transportation arrives. This would also apply to new or renovation designs where this room has been requested for emergency conditions.

**Question:** Is this interpretation correct?

**Answer:** Yes.