

## Interim Life Safety Measures (ILSM)

Each Hospital implements the life safety management plan and performance improvement standards, including all features described in the Joint Commission Elements of Performance for LS.01.02.01. The Hospital also:

- I. Maintains current record drawings or documents addressing all structural features of fire protection.
- II. Develops a policy for use of interim life safety measures (ILSM) that include written criteria to evaluate various Life Safety Compromises (LSC) deficiencies, the Life Safety Criteria Guide, and construction hazards for determining when and to what extent they are applicable. The ILSM consist of one or more of the following actions:
  - A. The hospital notifies the fire department and initiates a fire watch when a fire alarm or fire suppression system is out of service more than 4 hours in a 24-hour period in an occupied building. Notification and fire watch times are documented.
  - B. The hospital posts signage identifying the location of alternative exits to everyone affected.
  - C. The hospital has a written interim life safety measure (ILSM) policy that covers situations when the Life Safety Code deficiencies cannot be immediately corrected or during periods of construction. The policy includes criteria for evaluating when and to what extent the hospital follows special measures to compensate for increased life safety risk.
  - D. Inspect exits in affected areas on a daily basis.
  - E. Provide temporary but equivalent fire alarm and detection systems for use when a fire system is impaired.
  - F. Provide additional fire-fighting equipment.
  - G. Use temporary construction partitions that are smoke tight and make of noncombustible or limited-combustible material that will not contribute to the development or spread of fire.
  - H. Increase surveillance of buildings, grounds, and equipment, giving special attention to construction areas and storage, excavation, and field offices.
  - I. Enforce storage, housekeeping and debris removal practices that reduce the building's flammable and combustible fire load to the lowest feasible level.
  - J. Provide additional training to those who work in the hospital on the use of fire-fighting equipment.
  - K. Conduct one additional fire drill per shift per quarter.

- L. Inspect and test temporary systems monthly.
  - M. Conduct education to promote awareness of building deficiencies, construction hazards, and temporary measures implemented to maintain fire safety.
  - N. Train those who work in the hospital to compensate for impaired structural or compartmental fire safety features.
- III. Implement, document and enforce appropriate interim life safety measures (ILSM) as determined by the organization. See "CLASP Violations" in the Procedures section of the CLASP Manual.
- IV. When a building or area is adversely affected by fire safety deficiencies or any combination of fire safety deficiencies and active construction, that building shall be put into Interim Life Safety Status. Measures shall be instituted throughout each building or area in Interim Life Safety Status in accordance with the Joint Commission's Interim Life Safety Measures found later in this policy.