



Plume scavenging in surgical, diagnostic, therapeutic, and aesthetic settings



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Technical Committee on Perioperative Safety

S. Taylor	St. Joseph's Health Care, London, Ontario <i>Representing User Management</i>	Chair
M. Armutlu	Jewish General Hospital, Montréal, Québec Representing User Management	
A. Bialachowski	St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, Hamilton, Ontario Representing General Interest	
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J.D. Deslauriers	Health Canada, Ottawa, Ontario Representing Government and/or Regulatory Authority	
N. Dolan	Dräger Medical Canada Inc, Richmond Hill, Ontario	Associate
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C. Landers	Weeneebayko General Hospital, Moose Factory, Ontario Representing General Interest	
K.L. LeDez	Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador Representing Health Care Professional	
B.W. McLeod	Maple Ridge, British Columbia Representing Health Care Professional	

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G. Mendes	GE Health Care Technologies, Mississauga, Ontario Representing Producer Interest	
P.I. Mendes	3M Canada, London, Ontario	Associate
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D.H. Piper	MAQUET-DYNAMED Inc, Markham, Ontario Representing Producer Interest	
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R.C. Shantz	Parkin Architects Limited, Toronto, Ontario Representing General Interest	
P.J. Smalley	Technology Concepts International, Chicago, Illinois, USA Representing General Interest	
C. Stark	London Health Sciences Center, London, Ontario	Associate
H. Thiemann	Medical Device Industry Consultant, Perkasie, Pennsylvania, USA Representing Producer Interest	
K.L. Warcimaga	Selkirk and District General Hospital, Selkirk, Manitoba Representing User Management	
J. Wilding	Dräger Medical Canada Inc, Richmond Hill, Ontario Representing Producer Interest	
C. Cortissoz	CSA Group, Mississauga, Ontario	Project Manager

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Subcommittee on Plume Scavenging

D.R. Palmerton	Buffalo Filter, Lancaster, New York, USA	Chair
S. Taylor	St. Joseph's Health Care, London, Ontario	Vice-Chair
A. Bialachowski	St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, Hamilton, Ontario	
R. Bilan	University Health Network, Toronto, Ontario	
G. Bruce	AMT Electrosurgery, Kitchener, Ontario	
B. Hunt	Class 1 Inc., Cambridge, Ontario	
L.W. Ineson	Instrumed Surgical, Mississauga, Ontario	
M.R. Ramirez	The Hospital For Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario	
M. Rosenblitt	LKM Divison of SNC-Lavalin Inc., Toronto, Ontario	
W. Schroeder	Covidien, Saint-Laurent, Québec	
P.J. Smalley	Technology Concepts International, Chicago, Illinois, USA	
D. Kolozsvari	CSA Group, Mississauga, Ontario	Project Manager

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Preface

This is the second edition of CSA Z305.13, *Plume scavenging in surgical, diagnostic, therapeutic, and aesthetic settings*. It supersedes the previous edition published in 2009.

This Standard was prepared by the Subcommittee on Plume Scavenging, under the jurisdiction of the Technical Committee on Perioperative Safety and the Strategic Steering Committee on Health Care Technology, and has been formally approved by the Technical Committee.

Notes:

- 1) Use of the singular does not exclude the plural (and vice versa) when the sense allows.
- 2) Although the intended primary application of this Standard is stated in its Scope, it is important to note that it remains the responsibility of the users of the Standard to judge its suitability for their particular purpose.
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 - b) relevant clause, table, and/or figure number;
 - c) wording of the proposed change; and
 - d) rationale for the change.

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CSA Z305.13:13 Plume scavenging in surgical, diagnostic, therapeutic, and aesthetic settings

0 Introduction

Certain surgical, diagnostic, therapeutic, and aesthetic techniques can generate noxious airborne contaminants (plume) as by-products, particularly from procedures that rely on the ablation, cauterization, or mechanical manipulation of target tissue by devices such as lasers, electrosurgical generators, broadband light sources, ultrasonic instruments, plasma generators, bone saws, and drills.

Plume can contain a variety of contaminants, including viable bacteria, viruses, cellular debris, particulates, noxious and toxic aerosols, gases, vapours, and fumes (including fumes from metals). The gases can include toxic substances such as benzene, formaldehyde, and hydrogen cyanide. Energy-based contact with articles such as tubing, swabs, and skin preparation solutions will produce additional chemicals.

Plume can also contain aerosolized blood (plasma and blood cells or fragments of cells) and bloodborne pathogens in the form of bacteria and viruses. In vitro studies of bacterial and viral contamination have found viable *Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus,* human papillomavirus (HPV), and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in plume.

Plume thus poses a hazard to exposed persons and can transmit infection. The contaminants in plume can cause respiratory problems or have mutagenic or carcinogenic effects. They can also cause mucous membrane, ocular, respiratory, and skin irritations and reduce the clinician's ability to visualize the operative field, resulting in unsafe operating conditions.

1 Scope

1.1

This Standard applies to systems and equipment used to capture and evacuate plume. It applies to all settings where such systems and equipment are used, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a) surgical facilities;
- b) dental clinics;
- c) medical offices;
- d) veterinary facilities;
- e) laboratories and other research and testing facilities;
- f) cosmetic treatment facilities;
- g) teaching facilities;
- h) manufacturing facilities; and
- i) professional exhibitions and trade shows.

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