

**CODE APPLICATION NOTICE****Subject:** Receptacles with Insulated Grounding  
Terminals**FILE NO.:** 3-517.16  
**EFFECTIVE:** 06/19/08**CODE SECTION:** Article 517.16, 2007 California Electrical Code (CEC)**517.16. Receptacles with Insulated Grounding Terminals.** Receptacles with insulated grounding terminals as permitted in Section 250.146(D), shall be identified; such identification shall be visible after installation.**PURPOSE:**

This interpretation coordinates and clarifies the requirements of Articles 517.13, 517.16, 250.146(D), and 406.2(D) of the 2007 CEC as they apply to insulated ground receptacles in patient care areas.

Isolated ground receptacles do not satisfy the implied requirement of Article 517.13 of the 2007 CEC for parallel ground paths. A sign is provided to alert staff to the increased risk of connecting patient care equipment to the receptacle.

**INTERPRETATION:**

Isolated ground receptacles, where required for the reduction of electrical noise (electromagnetic interference) on the grounding circuit, are permitted in patient care areas of hospitals. Two insulated equipment grounding conductors shall be run with the branch circuit conductors supplying the receptacle; one shall be the isolated ground conductor and the other shall be the equipment grounding conductor required by Article 517.13(B) of the 2007 CEC. The insulated grounding conductor shall terminate on the grounding terminal of the receptacle; the equipment grounding conductor required by Article 517.13(B) of the 2007 CEC shall ground the outlet box on which the receptacle is installed.

Isolated ground receptacles shall be identified by an orange color or an orange triangle located on the face of the receptacle as required by Article 410.56(D) of the 2007 CEC. Additionally, isolated ground receptacles in patient care areas shall be identified with a permanent sign that reads "Caution - Not for Patient Equipment Use".

Original Signed \_\_\_\_\_ 06/19/08  
John D. Gillengerten \_\_\_\_\_ Date