

BEDPAN WASHERS

BIN 12

SUTTER HEALTH - BARRIER INTERPRETATION NOTICE

12.1 – Code Intent

Author:	Bill Zellmer	ISSUE DATE:	January 9, 2015
		REVISIONS:	March 7, 2022

A. Code Text: CBC Section 11B-604.5.2 (Grab bars) Rear wall. The rear wall grab bar shall be 36 inches (914 mm) long minimum and extend from the centerline of the water closet 12 inches (305 mm) minimum on one side and 24 inches (610 mm) minimum on the other side.

Exception 2: Where an administrative authority requires flush controls for flush valves to be located in a position that conflicts with the location of the rear grab bar, then the rear grab bar shall be permitted to be split or shifted to the open side of the toilet area.

B. HCAI / OSHPD CAN 2-11B Page 27:

“Patient toilet rooms with bedpan flushing devices are an allowance, not a requirement. If this approach is pursued, the bedpan flushing device shall not be a unit that results in the need to split or offset the rear grab bar. Section 11B-604.5.2 Exception 2 is not available to accommodate bedpan flushing devices. The gripping surface of the grab bar must be available for the entire 36-inch length without interruption. Bedpan flushing is commonly provided in patient toilet rooms associated with Protective Environment rooms when located in a dedicated nursing unit such as a Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) unit. The clinical need associated with infection control, in this case, may be considered to justify Exception 2.”

Editorial Note:

The excerpt shown above is from the 2019 version of CAN 2-11B.

C. CBC Section 1224.14.2.7 Soiled workroom or soiled holding room. This room shall be separate from the clean utility room. The soiled utility room shall contain a clinical sink (or equivalent flushing-rim fixture). The room shall contain a handwashing fixture...If the flushing sink is eliminated, facilities for cleaning bedpans shall be provided elsewhere.

2013 CPC Table 4-2:

Table 4-2 identifies soiled utility rooms as requiring a clinic sink, and identifies footnote 14 as applicable, as follows:

"The clinic sink may be deleted if all bedrooms in the nursing unit are provided with adjoining toilets and bedpan flushing devices."

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Sutter Preference:

A flexible-hose bedpan washer may be placed so that the fixture remains out of the 12" clearance that is required above the grab bar, and as much as possible, the hose shall be kept out the required clearance.

In the example shown, the hose hangs slightly inside of the required clearance. The intrusion is minor and considered acceptable.



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12.3 – Grab Bar Obstructions

Sutter Preference:

Vertical pipes are not allowed in front of the grab bar as they partially obstruct use of the grab bar.

While some building department jurisdictions may allow such a placement, others will not. Additionally, this interpretation is consistent with the opinion of the US. Access Board.

