

Life Sciences Practice Group Newsletter



New provisions applicable to infrastructure and equipment of outpatient medical care facilities

On July 9, 2020, the “Mexican Official Standard NOM-005-SSA3-2018, that establishes the minimum requirements applicable to infrastructure and equipment of outpatient medical care facilities” (new NOM-005) was published in the Federal Official Gazette (DOF).

Said NOM will enter into force on September 7, 2020, cancelling NOM-005-SSA3-2010.

Among the most relevant amendments to NOM-005, in relation to the previous one, are the following:

- » The new NOM-005 establishes that medical offices linked to a hospital may operate using the latter’s health license and will not be required to file a Premises Operation Notice on an individual basis.
- » It establishes that in addition to appointing a Health Compliance Officer, now it is also necessary to submit, before the health authority, a notice regarding said appointment.
- » The new NOM-005 establishes that the evidence of fumigation or disinfection must be kept in the premises, but it will not be necessary to file it with the authority, unless such evidence is requested during a verification procedure.
- » It also establishes the obligation to comply with “NOM-001-SEDE-2012, Electrical Installations” due to the nature of the services and risks associated with the potential situations arising from non-compliant electrical installations.
- » Establishes the obligation to physically keep patients’ clinical records within the medical care facilities.
- » It includes homeopathy and optometry clinics as outpatient medical care facilities.
- » It establishes, as a new requirement for stomatology clinics, to have a drinking water basin with certain features and characteristic and eliminates the obligation to have an oil-free air compressor.
- » It establishes that acupuncture clinics must comply with “NOM-017-SSA3-2012, Health services regulation. For the practice of human acupuncture and related methods”, instead of NOM-172-SSA1-1998.

- » It no longer contemplates the exceptional obligation to attend medical emergencies in general or in family medicine offices.
- » It adds the Appendix related to the equipment of optometry clinics.
- » It eliminates the Appendix related to the emergency care equipment (since this exceptional situation is eliminated in the new NOM-005).
- » It does not establish the specific medicines that must be included in emergency kits, but rather indicates in general terms the types of medicines they must include.

Our team of experts are prepared to assist you in the analysis of these new regulations applicable to medical care facilities.

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