

**Michigan Department of Licensing & Regulatory Affairs (LARA)**  
**Bureau of Health Care Services**  
**Health Facilities Division**  
**Health Facilities Engineering Section**



<b>Interpretive Bulletin: #04-2003</b>	
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Rule Reference</b>
Locations of Hand Wash Sinks in Isolation anterooms/vestibules	1998 Minimum Design Standards for Health Care Facilities in Michigan Section 7.2.C2
	<b>Date</b> January 29, 2003

*Interpretive Bulletins are released by the Health Facilities Engineering Section to clarify sections of the 1998 Michigan Design Standards for Health Care Facilities in Michigan and when research, experience, or technology illustrates present regulations do not adequately address the specific instances or circumstances in the health care environment.*

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The standard requires that each airborne infection isolation room to have an area for hand washing, gowning, and storage of clean and soiled material located directly outside or immediately inside the entry door to the room. In addition, the Standard requires hand washing facilities in all patient rooms and connecting toilet rooms. To clarify:

1. The term “either inside or outside the entry door” (section 7.2.C2) refers to the use of an anteroom (with a door between the anteroom and the patient room) or a vestibule, which is open to the usable portion of the patient room;
2. Hand washing facilities are required in open vestibules, but not in the patient room;
3. Hand washing facilities shall be provided in the anteroom in addition to the hand washing facilities required in the patient room unless the hospital’s airborne infectious patient care procedures (to be submitted for case-by-case review) do not depend upon the use of hand washing in the anteroom. In these cases, the hand washing facilities required in the patient room shall be located immediately inside the entry door to the room where the facility’s airborne infection care procedure would require staff to remove gowns, gloves, and mask.