

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



Interpretive Bulletin: #01-2003	
Subject	Rule Reference
Minimum Illumination in Cardiac Catheterization Lab and Operating Rooms	1998 Minimum Design Standards for Health Care Facilities in Michigan Section 7.32.D1. Table 12
	Date January 27, 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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Designers often question the need for 150 foot-candles (fc) of general illumination in cardiac cath labs (see Table 12) since much of the procedure is completed with the room lights dimmed. However, adequate lighting is required during procedure initiation, termination and for emergency situations. The illumination values in Table 12 were derived from guidelines published by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America, 1995, and determined by a formula that considers the acuity of the task, age of the person performing the task, and room finishes reflectance. Based upon staff observations, consultations with physicians performing cardiac catheterizations and IESNA we have the following interpretation/clarification of Table 12.

1. General room illumination for an operating room is 150 fc.
2. General room illumination for a cardiac cath room is 100 fc.