BEDPAN WASHERS						SAG 12
Author:	Bill Zellmer AIA, CASp	Issue Date:	January 9, 2015	Sutter Health - Physical Access Compliance		
	Sutter PAC Group	Revisions:	August 1, 2024	Sutter Accessibility Guidance		
Topic No.	**Topic Name**	**Brief Description**	**2025 CBC - Code Text:**	**2010 ADA Standards - Text:**	**Sutter Guidance**	**Additional Information**
1	**Code Text: Grab Bars**	Rear grab bars are specified in the code to be mounted horizontally in a location that will conflict with the vertical plumbing associated with a flush-valve mounted bedpan washing device.	**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.	**Same.**	Rear grab bars shall not be shifted or split.	See Detail Page 12.1 HCAI / OSHPD has been extremely clear that they will not allow shifting or splitting of rear grab bars for projects in their jurisdiction.
2	**Code Text: Clinic Sinks**	The 2025 CBC and 2025 CPC require *Clinic Sinks* to be provided in *soiled utility rooms.* A footnote in the plumbing code allows the elimination of clinic sinks if the facility instead provides a bedpan washing device at each and every patient toilet room in the nursing unit.	**2025 CBC Section 1224.4.4.7. Soiled utility/workroom.** The soiled workroom or soiled utility room shall be separate from and have no connection with either clean workrooms or clean supply rooms. The soiled utility/workroom shall contain: 1) Clinical sink (or equivalent flushing-rim fixture) 2) Handwashing station 3) Work counter 4) Space for separate covered containers for soiled linen and/or waste **2025 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."	**N/A**	Bedpan washers are not required by code; they are allowed by code.	See Detail Page 12.1
3	**Flexible Hose Alternative**	One available alternative is to provide a wall-mounted, flexible-hose bedpan washing device. The preferred installation would be mounted so that the flexible-hose stays clear of the 12" clear space required above grab bars.	**11B-609.3 (Grab bar) Spacing.** The space between the wall and the grab bar shall be 1 1/2 inches. The space between the grab bar and projecting objects below and at the ends shall be 1 1/2 inches minimum. The space between the grab bar and projecting objects above shall be 12 inches minimum.	**Same.**	**Sutter Preference:** The flexible-hose should be kept out of the 12" clearance required above the grab bar as much as possible.	See Detail Page 12.2
4	**No Obstruction of Rear Grab Bar**	The rear grab bar shall not be obstructed by vertical pipe that serves a bedpan washing device.	**11B-609.3 (Grab bar) Spacing.** The space between the wall and the grab bar shall be 1 1/2 inches. The space between the grab bar and projecting objects below and at the ends shall be 1 1/2 inches minimum. The space between the grab bar and projecting objects above shall be 12 inches minimum.	**Same.**	**Sutter Preference:** There shall not be a vertical pipe installed in front of the rear grab bar.	See Detail Page 12.3

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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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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.

