

Alabama Department of Public Health, Technical Services Unit  
Extension Cords and Power Strips  
Revised 07/01/2020

From CMS's All States Letter Number 22-99:

It is the policy of HCFA to prohibit non-circuit breaker protected extension cords in health care. The limited use of circuit breaker protected power strips is acceptable, provided the current is limited to 15 amps or less, and no major appliances such as air conditioners, refrigerators, or heating units are connected to the power strip. Widespread use of power strips may indicate the need for additional wiring.

Ref: S&C: 14-46-LSC:

In resident/patient rooms:

Power strips providing power to patient care-related electrical equipment must be Special-purpose Relocatable Power Taps (SPRPT) listed UL 1363A or UL 60601-1.

Power strips providing power to non-patient care-related electrical equipment must be Relocatable Power Taps (RPT) listed UL 1363.

Power strips may not be used in a patient care vicinity to power to non-patient care-related electrical equipment (e.g., personal electronics).