



Indian Health Service
Office of Environmental Health & Engineering
Division of Engineering Services

Date: February 7, 2017
From: Director, Division of Engineering Services
Authority Having Jurisdiction
Subject: Cass Lake Hospital Door Assessment
To: Cass Lake Hospital Chief Executive Officer

During a CMS Facility Survey of the Cass Lake Hospital conducted on 11/16/2016, a swinging solid single-panel door to the employee dining room and an automatic sliding glass two-panel door to the emergency room were cited as deficient because they were not automatically positive latching. Both are corridor doors. An excerpt from the survey is attached – see citation K 363. Hospital staff has conducted an investigation (report attached).

Per the investigation, the employee dining room door does not have a positive latch but is equipped with an automatic closing device. The force required to open the door was measured at 10 lbf.

Per the investigation, the emergency room sliding doors can be opened via breakaway side hinged panels during a loss of power. The breakaway side hinged panels are positively latched, but the horizontal direction of movement is not positively latched. The force required to open the doors in the horizontal direction of movement was measured at 20 lbf.

The 2012 NFPA 101 Chapter 19 Existing Health Care Occupancies 19.3.6.3.5 does not require positive latching, but does require doors to remain fully closed if a force of 5 lbf is applied

The 2012 NFPA 101 Chapter 19 Existing Health Care Occupancies 19.3.6.3.7 does not require positive latching on powered doors, but does require doors to remain fully closed if a force of 5 lbf is applied in any direction to a sliding door.

Both sets of doors are capable of keeping fully closed when a force of 5 lbf is applied. Therefore, these existing sets of doors are considered to be compliant with the 2012 NFPA 101 Life Safety Code.

/Michael Weaver/

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Attachments:
Cass Lake Hospital CMS Survey Excerpt
Cass Lake Hospital Staff Investigation

cc:
Todd Scofield, Director, Division of Facilities Management, OEHE, Bemidji Area
Joseph Bermes, Deputy Director for Architecture and Engineering, DES
Nick Lu, DES, Chairperson, Codes Committee