

Legislation

The legal requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act and the Electricity (Safety) Regulations make practice leaders, owners and shareholders responsible for providing a safe environment for both patients and team members.

The following pieces of legislation relate to the physical environment and Body Protected Areas:

- The Health and Safety at Work Act
- Electricity (Safety) Regulations
- The New Zealand Building Code
- AS/NZ Standards:
 - o AS/NZS 3003 Electrical installations Regulates Body Protected Areas
 - o AS/NZS 2500 Guide to the safe use of electricity in patient care
 - AS/NZS 3000 Electrical installations Known as the Australian/New Zealand Wiring Rules

N.B. the version of AS/NZS 2500, AS/NZS 3000 and AS/NZS 3003 that should be referred to is the version cited in the Electricity (Safety) Regulations. This often is not the latest version published as it commonly takes several years for a new version of a standard to be published for it to be ratified and cited in the Regulations.

Before any new or converted premises or facility can be occupied by the public and used for commercial purposes, a Code Compliance certificate is typically required. These are issue by the local Council to confirm that the facility complies with the requirements of the New Zealand Building Code.

Any electrical works undertaken as part of this process are required to be inspected by a Registered Electrical Inspector who will issue an Electrical Certificate of Compliance or Electrical Safety Certificate (dependent on the nature of the works) confirming that the works comply with the requirements of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations.

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