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British Standard Specification for
Cupboards for the storage of
medicines in health care premises

99年7月20日

2000年9月27日



2002年5月10日

2004年6月3日

Armoires de rangement des produits pharmaceutiques et des médicaments dans les services de santé —
Spécifications

Schränke für die Lagerung von Medikamenten in Einrichtungen der Gesundheitsfürsorge

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Foreword

This British Standard has been prepared under the direction of the Health Care Standards Policy Committee and supersedes BS 2881 : 1969, which is withdrawn.

The need to revise the 1969 edition was occasioned chiefly by changes in the legal status of the substances that might be expected to be stored in the cupboard, following the publication of Regulations under the Medicines Act 1968, and by the publication of the Misuse of Drugs (Safe Custody) Regulations 1973.

Before 1968 all medicines were covered by the poisons legislation, which categorized poisons and specified the degree of security needed for their storage. In 1968 new legislation classified poisons according to their use. Non-medical poisons remained under Home Office regulations but medicines came under the control of the

Department of Health and Social Security. Hence the category 'Poisons', to which the 1969 edition of BS 2881 referred, was superseded by the new category of 'Medicines'. In 1971 the Misuse of Drugs Act introduced the term 'Controlled Drugs' to replace 'Dangerous Drugs'.

The main differences between this British Standard and the 1969 edition are as follows. The requirements for materials and construction have been replaced by requirements and corresponding test methods that establish the performance of a number of aspects of the cupboard. In particular, a method for classifying the resistance of the cupboard to forcible entry is introduced and requirements for three levels of security of cupboards are given.

The Technical Committee decided that its major responsibility was to ensure that the cupboards have adequate resistance to forcible entry and chose to achieve this by developing strength criteria and appropriate performance test methods, and by the provision of a thief-resistant locking mechanism. Consequently, requirements for materials and methods of construction are in the main not specified, as they will vary according to the manner in which the strength and other criteria have been satisfied by the cupboard manufacturer. A number of other design features are matters for agreement between the purchaser and the manufacturer and guidance on these is given in appendix A.

The cupboards covered by this British Standard are intended for the storage of Medicines at ambient temperatures primarily in hospital wards, nursing homes, residential homes and other health care premises. It is expected that they will also be applicable to other premises where suitably sized, secure cupboards are needed for similar purposes, e.g. General Practitioners' surgeries, small-animal veterinary practices, schools and industrial medical centres.

Appendix B gives additional information on Regulations and guidance that may apply to the storage of Medicines and Controlled Drugs.

Although the cupboards covered by this British Standard are of robust construction and are fitted with thief-resistant locking mechanisms, the prevention of unauthorized access to the contents depends also on the security of the fixing of the cupboard, the level of surveillance in the premises in which it is installed (which includes the presence of alarm systems) and the institution and maintenance of appropriate procedures for personnel who will have right of access. A secure cupboard is of no avail if the key is indiscriminately available, if correct records are not kept, if it is possible to attempt forcible entry at leisure, or if it is easy to remove the unopened cupboard in order to gain entry later.

The exact nature of the practices and precautions to be adopted depends upon the local circumstances but general recommendations on the use, siting and installation of Medicines cupboards are given in appendix C.

This British Standard calls for the use of substances and/or procedures that may be injurious to health if adequate precautions are not taken. It refers only to technical suitability and does not absolve the user from legal obligations relating to health and safety at any stage.

In particular, attention is drawn to the procedure for testing the fire resistance of the cupboard. This procedure should be carried out by trained personnel under adequate supervision, and precautions should be taken to safeguard the health of personnel against the risk of fire or inhalation of smoke and toxic products of combustion.

The test procedures described in appendix D for assessing the security of cupboards were developed under a research contract, financed by the Department of Trade and Industry, at the Furniture Industry Research Association.

Product certification. Users of this British Standard are advised to consider the desirability of third party certification of product conformity with this British Standard based on testing and continuing surveillance, which may be coupled with assessment of a supplier's quality systems against the appropriate Part of BS 5750.

Enquiries as to the availability of third party certification schemes will be forwarded by BSI to the Association of Certification Bodies. If a third party certification scheme does not already exist, users should consider approaching an appropriate body from the list of Association members.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations. In particular, attention is drawn to the Statutory Instruments given in appendix B.



Amendment No. 1
published and effective from 1 April 1992
to BS 2881 : 1989

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medicines in health care premises

AMD 6919

Revised text

AMD 6919
April 1992

Clause 6.3 Resistance to surface wear

In lines 1 and 2, delete 'BS 3794 : Part 2 : 1986' and substitute 'BS EN 438 : Part 2 : 1991'.

AMD 6919
April 1992

Publications referred to

In lines 7 and 8, delete

'BS 3794 Decorative, high pressure laminates (HPL) based on thermosetting resins
Part 2 Methods of determination of properties'

At the end of the list of publications insert

'BS EN 438 Decorative high-pressure laminates (HPL). Sheets based on thermosetting resins
Part 2 Determination of properties'