health services associates
EXPERT RURAL HEALTH CONSULTANTS

OREGON OFFICE of RURAL HEALTH

An HSA Microlearning Session Summary *in partnership with Oregon Office of Rural Health.*



Equipment Maintenance

IS IT SAFE AND ACCURATE?

OUR GOAL: Help Rural Health Clinics establish and maintain an effective equipment maintenance program—ensuring equipment is safe, accurate, and ready for patient care.



KNOW THE REQUIREMENTS

- CMS §491.6 requires a preventive maintenance program.
  - Include essential mechanical, electrical, and patient-care equipment.
  - Follow manufacturer guidelines for inspection, maintenance, and calibration.
  - Understand the difference between electrical safety and biomedical inspections.

BUILD & MAINTAIN THE SYSTEM

- Define your maintenance process in policy.
- Maintain an equipment inventory and review it annually.
- Keep manufacturer guidelines accessible.
- Track inspections, repairs, and calibration through logs and service records.
- Add new equipment and inspect or test as appropriate before use.

STRENGTHEN READINESS

- Train staff to recognize and report equipment concerns.
- Remove broken equipment from service until safe to use.
- Verify what your inspection vendor actually tested.
- Don't overlook backup, stored, or rarely used equipment.
- Keep your policy, inventory, and maintenance records aligned.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- If it touches or measures a patient, we want to be sure it is safe and accurate!
- An inspection sticker doesn't tell the whole story.
- Know what equipment you have and what maintenance it requires.
- Document inspections, repairs, and corrective actions.
- Out of sight doesn't mean out of mind!

Equipment maintenance isn't just about passing a survey—it's about ensuring your equipment is safe, accurate, and ready when your patients need it.

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