

BS 7671:2018+A4:2026

Section 710 Medical Locations has changed



Amendment 4 to BS 7671:2018 introduces a major revision of Section 710 Medical Locations. For healthcare estates teams, consultants, contractors and electrical engineers, the changes affect how medical electrical systems are designed, specified, verified and maintained across healthcare facilities.

Compliance deadline:

Introduced 15 April 2026;
mandatory for fixed wiring
installations from 15 October 2026.



What has changed?

Clearer classification of medical locations

Medical locations are now more clearly defined as Group 0, Group 1 and Group 2, ensuring electrical infrastructure is designed according to clinical risk and patient dependency.

For healthcare organisations, this may require a review of existing room classifications, particularly where clinical use has changed over time.

Greater focus on Medical IT Systems

Group 2 areas, including operating theatres and critical care environments, continue to require medical IT systems comprising an isolating transformer and insulation monitoring device (IMD).

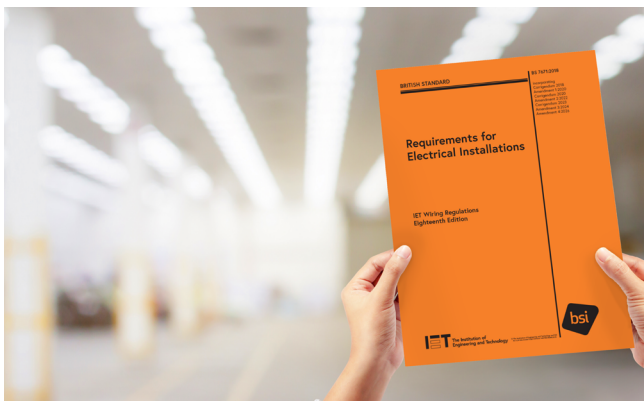
Amendment 4 strengthens and clarifies requirements regarding the location of equipment, associated wiring and fault reporting to improve visibility, fault location and continuity of supply.

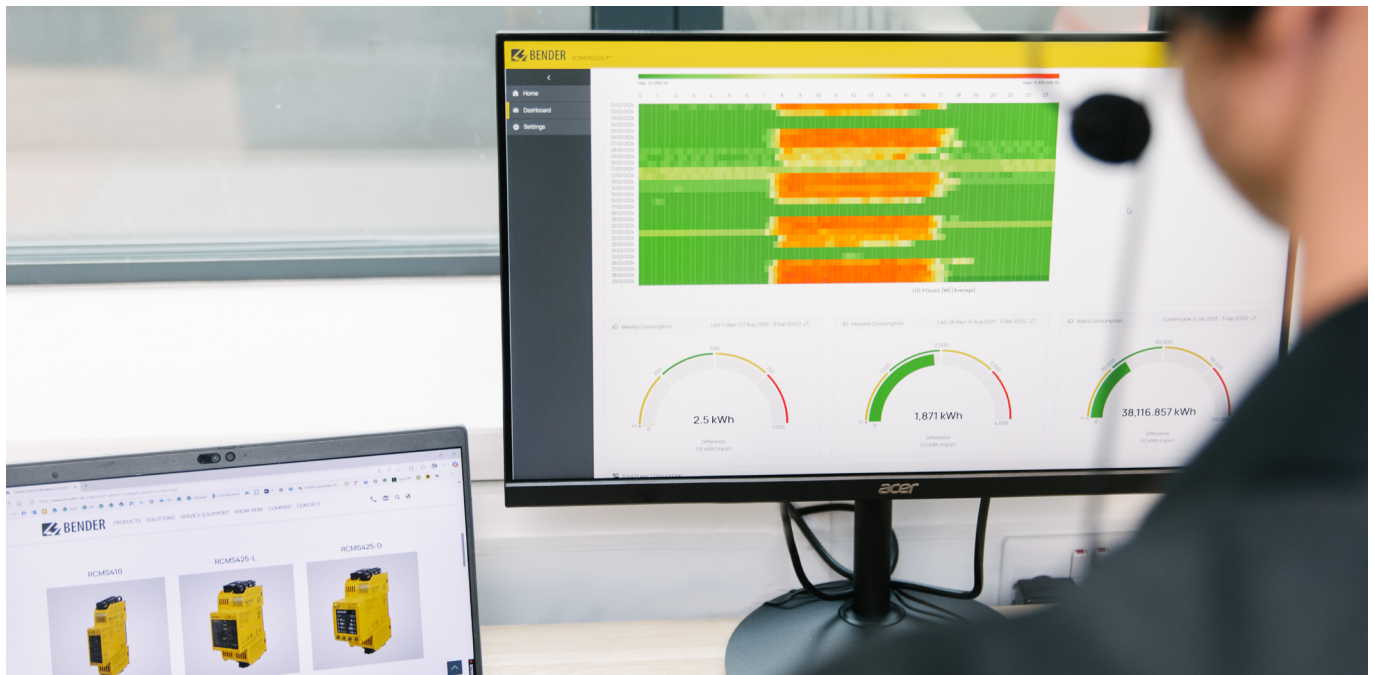
Enhanced design, testing and verification requirements

The amendment places greater emphasis on:

- Design and specification processes
- Equipment standards
- Inspection and testing procedures
- Verification records
- Supplementary bonding documentation

Compliance is increasingly about demonstrating evidence throughout the lifecycle of the installation.





Power resilience & safety services

Amendment 4 strengthens requirements around power resilience and the continuity of essential services in healthcare environments. This includes greater alignment with standards such as BS EN 50171 and BS 851, increased consideration of cable protection, routing and safety service requirements.

Fire safety & operational resilience

The updated requirements place greater emphasis on fire safety, evacuation risk assessments and maintaining critical electrical supplies during fault and emergency conditions.

For healthcare providers, electrical resilience remains closely linked to patient safety, clinical continuity and operational performance.

What should healthcare organisations review?

- ✔ Medical location classifications
- ✔ Group 2 critical power systems
- ✔ Medical IT systems and insulation monitoring
- ✔ UPS resilience strategies
- ✔ Verification and testing procedures
- ✔ Compliance documentation
- ✔ Infrastructure condition and lifecycle risk
- ✔ Monitoring and fault visibility across the estate



How Bender UK can support

Amendment 4 affects more than compliance. Bender UK supports healthcare providers, consultants and contractors with technical expertise to assess risk, improve resilience and support safe, compliant operation across the hospital's lifecycle.



Speak to our team about how BS 7671:2018+A4:2026 impacts your hospital.

