The ASHE ICRA 2.0 Matrix: How to Use It

THE DIRECT ANSWER

The ASHE ICRA 2.0 matrix (American Society for Health Care Engineering, ©2022) is the industry-standard tool for determining the Class of Precautions (I–V) a construction project requires. You use it in three steps: (1) classify the construction activity (Type A–D), (2) classify the patient risk group (Low, Medium, High, Highest), (3) match them in the matrix to find the class — then apply that class's minimum precautions. An infection control permit is required for Class III (Type C) and all Class IV/V work.

STEP 1 — CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY TYPE

- Type A: non-invasive (inspections, painting without sanding)
- Type B: small-scale, short duration
- Type C: large-scale, longer duration
- Type D: major demolition and construction

STEP 2 — PATIENT RISK GROUP

- Low: non-patient care areas (offices, public areas)
- Medium: patient care support areas
- High: patient care areas
- Highest: invasive, sterile, or highly compromised care (ORs, ICUs, oncology, transplant)

FIELD QUESTION

What are the ICRA 2.0 construction activity types?

Type A (non-invasive), Type B (small-scale short duration), Type C (large-scale longer duration), Type D (major demolition/construction).

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Caution: codes, editions, and targets vary by facility and authority having jurisdiction (AHJ). Figures marked as common practice are facility targets, not code requirements. Confirm against your AHJ and the current code text before acting.