

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
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Dialysis Treatment Center – Ambulatory Care Facility

Code: 2018 Building Code

Date: September 5, 2018

Section: 422, 202, & 304

Question:

Is a dialysis treatment center considered a Group B (business) “Ambulatory Care Facility” by the code?

Answer:

Yes. Although some patients may be able to disconnect themselves from a dialysis machine in an emergency, most are incapable of self-preservation because the related disease has left them in a physically weak state or, they are incapable of understanding the instructions for safely and properly disconnecting themselves from the dialysis equipment. Since a dialysis patient is treated on a less than a 24-hour basis and may be rendered incapable of self-preservation during such treatment, such facilities meet the code definition for an “Ambulatory Care Facility”.

Code References:

Section 202 – Definitions

AMBULATORY CARE FACILITY. Buildings or portions thereof used to provide medical, surgical, psychiatric, nursing or similar care on a less than 24-hour basis to individuals who are rendered incapable of self-preservation by the services provided.

Keywords:

kidney failure, renal