

## NFPA 2021

18.2.2.2.5.2\* Door-locking arrangements shall be permitted where patient special needs require specialized protective measures for their safety, provided that all of the following criteria are met:

- (1) Staff can readily unlock doors at all times in accordance with 18.2.2.2.6.
- (2) A total (complete) smoke detection system is provided throughout the locked space in accordance with 9.6.2.9, or locked doors can be remotely unlocked at an approved, constantly attended location within the locked space.
- (3)\* The building is protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 18.3.5.1.
- (4) The locks are electrical locks that fail safely so as to release upon loss of power to the device.
- (5) The locks release by independent activation of each of the following:
  - (a) Activation of the smoke detection system required by 18.2.2.2.5.2(2)
  - (b) Waterflow in the automatic sprinkler system required by 18.2.2.2.5.2(3)
- (6) Hardware for new electric lock installations is listed in accordance with UL 294, Access Control System Units.

A.18.2.2.2.5.2 Pediatric units, maternity units, and emergency departments are examples of areas where patients might have special needs that justify door locking. Door locking arrangements should be permitted to reduce the risk of abduction of infants and children who are patients.

18.2.2.2.6 Doors that are located in the means of egress and are permitted to be locked under other provisions of 18.2.2.2.5 shall comply with both of the following:

- (1) Provisions shall be made for the rapid removal of occupants by means of one of the following:
  - (a) Remote control of locks from within the locked smoke compartment
  - (b) Keying of all locks to keys carried by staff at all times
  - (c) Other such reliable means available to the staff at all times
- (2) Only one locking device shall be permitted on each door.