

Patient Safety Alert

Veterans Health Administration Warning System
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- Item:** Power cords for Hill-Rom Century+ electric beds, distributed between January 1, 1999 and July 1, 2002.
- Specific Incident:** In October 2002, a VA medical center identified that the power cord ground pins on some portable monitors broke off. Subsequently, the FDA identified that the power cord manufacturer distributed these cords to multiple medical equipment manufacturers, including Hill-Rom. This fracture compromises one of the safety features designed to limit patients' risk of electrical shock. Unless the pin has broken, patient safety is not compromised.
- Action:** If you have not already received and followed instructions in the attached notice from Hill-Rom, including replacing affected power cords, than:
1. Check the medical equipment inventory to determine if you have Hill-Rom, Century + electric beds and inspect the power cords for beds that fall within the affected range.



2. Determine the number of power cords affected by this notice. Affected cords are identified by their manufacture date with codes as follows: 09 - 01 through 16 - 02 (week - year) is imprinted on the hot and neutral cord blades. Immediately replace any cords with a broken ground pin with a spare and schedule replacement of other cords with an imprinted date that falls within the affected range.
3. Contact Hill-Rom technical support at 800-445-3720 for replacement power cords. We also suggest you provide them with updated contact information for future notices.

Source: VA Center for Engineering & Occupational Safety and Health (CEOSH), Manufacturer and FDA

Contact: For additional information, please contact Mr. Paul Sherman at CEOSH (314) 543 6700.