

# Shocking Trips

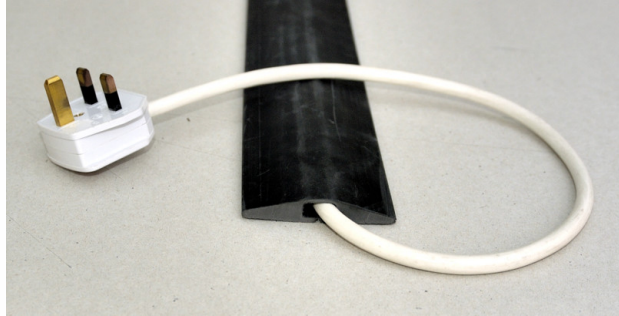
Standards of electrical safety need to be much higher in a medical location than in a domestic or commercial environment. Below are a few pointers to achieving an acceptable standard. How does your department measure up?

Do you have enough mains sockets to supply all the devices that are needed at each location?

Re-assess every year and install additional sockets so that you don't have to use extension mains leads and multi-plugs.



Use cable protectors to prevent damage/trip hazards from trolleys, wheelchairs or people walking on the cables.



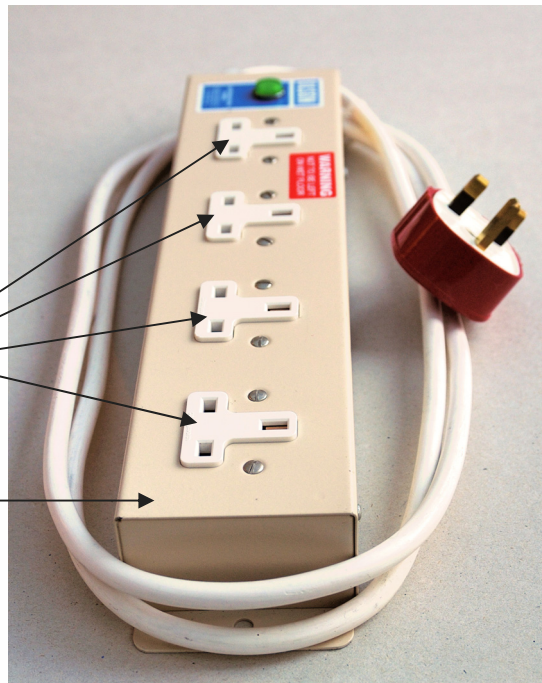
If extension leads cannot be avoided, use only high quality devices that have discrete 13 A sockets mounted in a metal enclosure. Do not use 'domestic' moulded plastic types.

Where a large number of sockets are needed, plastic trunking should be installed. Sockets can then be fitted in the most appropriate position. Additional sockets can also be added later.



Separate sockets

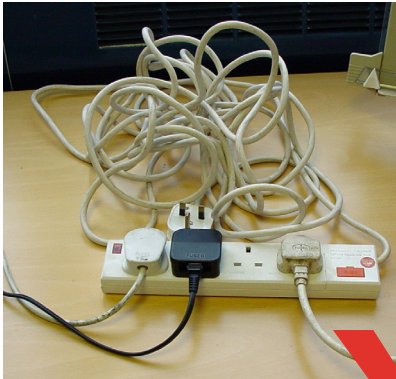
Earthed metal casing



Do not use extension mains leads that are over 3 metres long.

Long leads add too much resistance to the earth path.

Long or coiled leads also increase the danger of tripping.



For devices supplied with a two-pin continental mains plug either:

- replace the original plug with a standard 13 A plug or
- use an adaptor that holds the 2-pin plug within a 13 A plug top.

Never use a shaver adaptor!

