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Accreditation

MS.1.20 Task Force reaches consensus

In March, the MS.1.20 Implementation Task Force reached consensus and unanimously agreed to support their recommended revisions to The Joint Commission's Medical Staff standard 1.20. MS.1.20 was created in 2004 and since that time the field has raised concerns about the intent of the requirements of the standard, including: requiring too many details in the bylaws; the cost and burden associated with changing bylaws; the potential for disrupting relationships between the medical staff and governing body; and the role of the medical executive committee. The 18-member MS.1.20 Implementation Task Force was convened by The Joint Commission in January 2008 to analyze the potential impact of implementing the revised standard. They concluded that further revisions to the standard were needed to resolve field concerns. The Task Force, which met 12 times, focused its discussions on several key issues, including:

- What needs to appear in the medical staff bylaws and how such decisions are made.
- The relationship between the organized medical staff and the medical executive committee.
- How to foster a collaborative and positive relationship among the management, medical staff and governing body.
- How to manage conflict that may arise between the organized medical staff and the governing body, or between the organized medical staff and the medical executive committee, regarding medical staff bylaws, rules and regulations, and policies.
- The definitions of terms that appear in the standard.

Task Force members engaged in a long, deliberate and objective process to resolve these issues. The Task Force membership included, among others, a representative from the following professional organizations: American College of Physicians, American College of Surgeons, American Dental Association, American Hospital Association, American Medical Association, Federation of American Hospitals, and National Association of Medical Staff Services. The representatives of these organizations have agreed to support the adoption of the recommended working draft standard, MS.01.01.01, and believe that the working draft standard contributes to patient safety and quality of care through the support of a well-functioning, positive relationship between the medical staff and governing body.

Over the next few months, The Joint Commission will work with these organizations and members of the Task Force to garner feedback from the field regarding the Task Force recommendations. The results of this feedback will be communicated to The Joint Commission by October 15, 2009. If the informal feedback from the field supports the proposed standard, The Joint Commission's Board of Commissioners will then consider authorizing the conduct of a formal field review to provide all interested parties an opportunity to comment on the proposal. Hospitals are currently expected to be in compliance with Medical Staff standard MS.01.01.01 (the standard number changed due to the Standards Improvement Initiative) in the 2009 Hospital Accreditation Manual. The current standard will remain in effect until further notice. There is an indefinite moratorium on the implementation of Element of Performance 19 of the current MS.01.01.01. (Contact: Chuck Mowll, cmowll@jointcommission.org)

Field review

The Joint Commission invites comment on [proposed requirements related to Staffing Effectiveness standards](#). Comments are appreciated before July 10, 2009; however, the field review will remain open until July 22, 2009. The survey of the Staffing Effectiveness standards (PI.04.01.01 for hospitals and HR.1.30 for long term care organizations) has been suspended. This field review, which covers two interim elements of performance, is the first step in transitioning to more effective requirements for evaluating staffing in health care organizations. (Contact: Laura Smith, lsmith@jointcommission.org)

Communications

New RSS feed for *Joint Commission Online*

There is now an RSS (Rich Site Summary or Really Simple Syndication) feed available for *Joint Commission Online*. You can get the link from the Joint Commission [Web site](#), or add the following link to your newsreader: <http://www.jointcommission.org/jointcommission/RSS.aspx?feed=RSSJCOOnline>. RSS is a way to receive regular updates on your computer or mobile device. It allows easy access to the latest news and other Web content, eliminating the need to visit each site individually. For more information, visit the RSS page of the Joint Commission [Web site](#). (Contact: Frank Barancyk, fbarancyk@jointcommission.org)

Joint Commission Resources

Reminder: JCR Pediatric Conference to be held July 22-23

On July 22-23, Joint Commission Resources will hold its ***Pediatric Safety Conference: Safe Care, Quality Care, We Care***. This conference includes:

- Assessment tools you can use for a comprehensive review of pediatric services provided in emergency and inpatient settings.
- Pediatric review tools and checklists to improve patient safety, such as “Tips for Success on Safety Rounds.”
- Emergency preparedness issues facing the pediatric population, including evacuation and emergency services.
- The benefits of using animal therapy for children and how to set up your own successful program.

To register, call JCR Customer Service at (877) 223-6866 or go to <http://www.jcrinc.com/ProductDetails1514.aspx>. The conference will be held in Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., and the conference fee is \$749 per registrant. (Contact: Susan Murray, smurray@jcrinc.com)

Free Briefings on HCSS Certification in Illinois, Ohio and D.C.

Not-yet-certified health care staffing firms are invited to attend a free briefing on The Joint Commission’s Health Care Staffing Services Certification Program. Attendees will learn about the benefits of Joint Commission certification and the process of becoming certified. The briefings include an opportunity to talk directly with Joint Commission staff about the application process, standards, on-site review and pricing. Attendees will receive free copies of the 2009 Health Care Staffing Certification Manual (a \$100 value), the Certification Handbook, and Review Process Guide. To register, click [here](#). The briefings will be held:

- July 28, 8:30 – 11 a.m., Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Joint Commission Conference Center
- August 13, 9 – 11:30 a.m., Columbus, Ohio, Holiday Inn Columbus Downtown Capitol Square (presented in conjunction with the Ohio Hospital Association’s Solutions Staffing Program)
- September 14, 1 – 4 p.m., Washington, D.C., Wardman Park Marriott

(Contact: Dave Eickemeyer, deickemeyer@jointcommission.org)

Briefings for hospitals, critical access hospitals and ambulatory organizations

Hospitals, critical access hospitals and ambulatory care organizations can find out all they need to know about standards compliance at Joint Commission Resources’ 2009 Breakfast Briefings Web Conference Series. This series focuses on accreditation standards, Standards Improvement Initiative (SII) updates, changes for 2010, the National Patient Safety Goals, and strategies for maintaining continuous compliance with the most challenging standards. Briefings are led by Joint Commission and JCR experts who have successfully implemented compliance initiatives and can help your organization strengthen patient care and raise safety awareness. Each week, these experts will cover the accreditation manual one chapter at a time. The presentation will be followed by a Q&A session.

Organizations can sign up for one connection with multiple attendees participating. Free media downloads will be available after each session, allowing your team to listen to the archived web conferences. The intended audiences for the conferences are: senior executives, accreditation managers, physicians, nurses, pharmacists, patient safety officers, quality and risk managers, and quality directors. Register by August 28 and save \$200 on the \$1,800 cost. Order online by clicking the series name below, or by calling JCR Customer Service at (877) 223-6866.

[2009 Hospital Breakfast Briefings Web Conference Series](#) (Item Code DEP807)
Sept. 10 – Nov. 12, 2009, 9-10:15 a.m. Central Time, every Thursday for 10 weeks

[2009 Ambulatory Breakfast Briefings Web Conference Series](#) (Item Code DEP808)
Sept. 9 – Nov. 11, 2009, 9-10:15 a.m. Central Time, every Wednesday for 9 weeks

(Contact: Gina LaMantia, glamantia@jcrinc.com)

Call for emergency preparedness presentations

The Joint Commission and JCR are now accepting proposals for presentations for the 2010 Annual Emergency Preparedness Conference to be held this spring in Washington, D.C. Presentations should focus on practitioner-based, change-focused practices, including new processes, technologies, techniques or tools, and creative and innovative ideas used for emergency preparedness. Presentations should also relate to The Joint Commission's standards and demonstrate a successful approach to at least one of the four phases of emergency preparedness: mitigation, preparation, response and recovery. Presentation proposals must be submitted by August 15, 2009, via an online registration form. Questions may be e-mailed to EPrep2010@jcrinc.com. (Contact Leslie LaBelle, llabelle@jcrinc.com)

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Extras

[IN Sight - July 2009](#)