

Demonstrate Your Commitment to Excellence and Improved Outcomes







The Joint Commission's Certification for Disease-Specific Care

recognizes programs with exceptional efforts to foster better outcomes for people with chronic conditions.



The Joint Commission
Certification
Disease-Specific Care

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Demonstrate Your Commitment to Excellence



The Joint Commission's Disease-Specific Care certification is evidence that quality programs are focused on achieving optimum results. Patients, families, employers, payers and providers will benefit from chronic care management programs that have been carefully and comprehensively evaluated by The Joint Commission for compliance with relevant quality standards, for effective use of clinical practice guidelines and for use of performance measurement that leads to improved outcomes.

What is Joint Commission Certification?

Joint Commission's Disease-Specific Care Certification is a voluntary review of a clinical program that delivers care to a defined patient population. Certification is granted after an on-site review that looks at your commitment to excellence in providing disease-specific services in a comprehensive manner. Certification is not connected to your accreditation status; you can become Disease-Specific Care Certified whether or not your organization is accredited.

What does certification require?

Joint Commission Disease-Specific Care certification requirements include:

- Compliance with Disease-Specific Care certification standards as described in *The Joint Commission's Standards Manual for Disease-Specific Care*.
- A standardized method of delivering clinical care based on appropriate clinical guidelines and/or evidence-based practice
- A commitment to performance measurement and improvement for the chronic disease(s) or condition(s) certified.

State-of-the-art quality standards and criteria

The Joint Commission's Disease-Specific Care Certification standards and criteria are based on the chronic care model developed by Edward Wagner, M.D., Director of the W.A. MacColl Institute for Health Care Innovation, Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound. The certification program was additionally developed in collaboration with disease management experts, chronic care providers, and professional associations to reflect these critical elements of managing chronic care:

- Program management
- Clinical information management
- Delivering or facilitating clinical care
- Supporting self-management
- Measuring and improving performance

The standards are designed to encourage interaction and communication among the care-giving teams and between the care givers and the patient.



What programs can be certified?

The Joint Commission's Disease-Specific Care program uses a model that is flexible enough to apply to virtually any chronic disease or condition, across a wide range of clinical settings, including (but not limited to):

Acute Coronary Syndrome	High-risk pregnancy
Acute Myocardial Infarction	HIV/AIDS
Alzheimer's Disease	Hyperlipidemia
Anti-Coagulation	Hypertension
Arthritis	Infectious Diseases
Asthma	Ischemic Heart Disease
Brain Injury	Low Back Pain
Bronchiolitis Treatment	Lung Volume Reduction Surgery
Burn Treatment	Migraine Headaches
Cancer	Multiple Sclerosis
Cardiac Program	Obesity/Bariatric Surgery
Chemical Dependency	Orthopedic Joint Replacement
Chronic Kidney Disease	Osteoporosis
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	Parkinson's Disease
Coronary Artery Disease	Pneumonia
Cystic Fibrosis	Primary Stroke Center
Depression	Respiratory Failure
Diabetes	Self-Injury
Digestive/Gastrointestinal Disorders	Sickle Cell Disease
Eating Disorders	Sleeping Disorders
Emphysema	Spinal Cord Injury
End Stage Renal Disease	Stroke Rehabilitation
Epilepsy	Trauma
Heart Failure	Vascular Diseases
Hemophilia	Ventricular Assist Device Surgery
	Wound Care

Two of the above, Lung-Volume Reduction Surgery, and Ventricular Assist Device Surgery, are required to be Joint Commission certified under CMS's national coverage determination.

Advanced Certification Programs

The Joint Commission has collaborated with several associations in health care to develop these unique disease-specific care certification programs.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Certification

Achieving certification can validate the quality of care you provide to COPD patients and help improve the long-term outcomes through earlier diagnosis, earlier staging, smoking cessation programs, medication management and patient education.

The review process will also help strengthen your COPD program's performance improvement activities and internal systems.



Criteria developed in collaboration with the American Lung Association

Inpatient Diabetes Certification

Recognizing that glucose control is crucial to avoid further complications for hospital patients who are admitted with an existing diagnosis of diabetes, certification for inpatient diabetes is designed to address management of patients with diabetes across all hospital inpatient departments, regardless of admission diagnosis.

The certification program uses inpatient clinical guidelines developed by the American Diabetes Association.

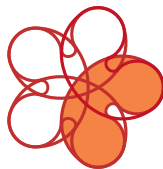


Criteria developed in collaboration with the American Diabetes Association

Chronic Kidney Disease Certification

Certification for chronic kidney disease recognizes programs that possess the following critical attributes

- A standard for delivering or facilitating care management based on the National Kidney Foundation's KDOQI evidence-based clinical practice guidelines
- A secure and timely system for sharing information across settings and providers
- Clinical practices which enable tailored treatment plans and interventions, and support a participant's self-management activities.



**National Kidney
Foundation™**

Criteria developed in collaboration with the National Kidney
Foundation Association

Primary Stroke Center Certification

Stroke Center certification for treatment of acute ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke is based upon the Brain Attack Coalition's Recommendations, which include support and involvement of

- Acute Stroke Teams
- Emergency Medical Services
- Emergency Department
- Stroke unit
- Neurological Services
- Neuro-Imaging
- Laboratory Services

And the development of

- Written care protocols
- Education programs
- Outcomes/quality improvement activities

**American Stroke
AssociationSM**

A Division of American
Heart Association 

Criteria developed in collaboration with the
American Stroke Association

Why Pursue a Certificate of Distinction from The Joint Commission?

For more than 50 years the name “Joint Commission” has been synonymous with unparalleled quality, safety and performance improvement. Our standards are recognized as the most rigorous in the industry, our evaluators are some of the most knowledgeable in their field, and our accredited and certified organizations are among the top in their marketplaces. No other “seal of approval” is as widely recognized to peers, payers, insurers and the public as the Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval™.

The Joint Commission is committed to continuously improving the quality and safety of care provided to the public. In keeping with our mission, we are proud to offer recognition for disease management programs that are committed to identification, systematic management and improved outcomes for patients with all types of chronic diseases or conditions.

“Joint Commission certification says to our patients and families that we’ve achieved something important and prestigious, giving us recognition for providing high quality services. It’s a great acknowledgment of our staff’s efforts.”

Doris Schmidt

*Joint Commission Compliance Manager
Tampa General Hospital
Tampa, FL*

*(certified for Trauma/Burn Center,
Orthopedic Joint Replacement, Organ
Transplant, Primary Stroke Center, Bariatric
Surgery, Epilepsy, Digestive/Gastrointestinal
Disorders, Sleep Disorders)*



The Joint Commission

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My organization is (please check all that apply):

- Health care provider
 - Hospital
 - Clinic/outpatient/ambulatory setting
 - Home care
 - Long term care/nursing home
 - Other _____
- Disease management service company
- Health plan
- Employer

**We are interested in disease-specific care
certification for the following programs**

- Stroke
- Inpatient Diabetes
- COPD
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Other _____

