

Important Notice Re: ICU Measure Set

Please be advised that the Joint Commission is suspending the July 1, 2005 implementation of data collection for its ICU measure set.

This suspension will enable the Joint Commission to align its ORYX performance measurement requirements with respect to ICU measures, with the recent decision of the Hospital Quality Alliance to next add measures related to surgical care to the nationally reported measure set portrayed on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Hospital Compare web site. The Alliance surgical care measures are to be drawn from the measure set of the Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP), which is sponsored by CMS and other partners (including the Joint Commission), and the Joint Commission's ICU measure set. In this process, the ICU measures are to be merged with corresponding SCIP measures and all of the measures are to be configured to focus on surgical care. It is the Joint Commission's intent that when the Alliance's merged SCIP and ICU measure set has achieved National Quality Forum (NQF) endorsement, it will become available for selection to satisfy Joint Commission ORYX performance measurement requirements.

In the interim, the Joint Commission affirms that its ICU measure set is an excellent, relevant, evidence-based, fully-specified, and fully-tested measure set, and it will continue to be available on the Joint Commission web site for reference and for use by others.

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