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## Accreditation

### Posting of prepublication versions of the 2010 standards

Today, The Joint Commission posted on its [Web site](#) prepublication versions of the 2010 standards for all of its accreditation programs. These standards will remain posted at least through December 1, 2009, when the print manuals are delivered to accredited organizations, and the E-dition is updated. Accredited organizations should direct questions to the Standards Interpretation Group at (630) 792-5900 or via the [online form](#).

### Changes to hospital standards to reflect Medicare required specificity

As part of The Joint Commission's application to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for continued hospital deeming authority, CMS required The Joint Commission to add specificity to its standards as a way to demonstrate equivalency with the Medicare hospital requirements. To accomplish this, The Joint Commission created new elements of performance (EPs) and revised others. The first draft of CMS-related changes was posted on The Joint Commission Web site in January 2009. An updated version of the changes was posted in March 2009 and implemented in July 2009. The majority of the revisions now being made are minor editorial changes that include adding notes to standards and EPs to further clarify the intent of requirements. For more information on these changes, see the October 2009 issue of [The Joint Commission Perspectives](#) (provided online free of charge) or visit The Joint Commission [Web site](#).

Also posted is a [document](#) of the changes made to standards relating to credentialing and privileging by proxy and telemedicine, which are not effective until July 15, 2010. Please note that while revisions have been made to these standards and these revisions will be implemented July 15, 2010, The Joint Commission continues to engage CMS and members of Congress regarding the issue of credentialing and privileging by proxy as it relates to telemedicine providers and users. The Joint Commission believes that there would be an adverse effect on the access to some telehealth services if organizations are not allowed to comply with the current Joint Commission requirements addressing credentialing and privileging by proxy. The Joint Commission also believes that the CMS requirements will likely place an undue burden on many organizations without improving the quality of services and the effectiveness of the credentialing and privileging processes or their accountability. There is no final agreement or change to federal regulation at this time; therefore, The Joint Commission must survey to the current Medicare requirements regarding credentialing and privileging. (Contact: Mary Brockway, [mbrockway@jointcommission.org](mailto:mbrockway@jointcommission.org))

### Free conference call on the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare

Joint Commission President Mark R. Chassin, M.D., will discuss the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare during a free one hour telephone conference call for Joint Commission-accredited hospitals and critical access hospitals on Tuesday, October 6, at noon PT, 1 p.m. MT, 2 p.m. CT, 3 p.m. ET. Dr. Chassin will give an overview about the Center and the hand hygiene project. Following his remarks, participants will be able to ask questions. The following representatives from the organizations participating in the hand hygiene project will be available to answer questions:

- **Jennifer Blaha**, Cedars-Sinai Health System
- **Amber Miller, M.S.N., R.N., C.I.C.**, Exempla Lutheran Medical Center
- **Beth Lanham, RN, B.S.N., M.B.A.**, Froedtert Hospital
- **Laura Winner, B.S.N., M.B.A.**, The Johns Hopkins Hospital and Health System

- **Anne-Claire France, Ph.D.**, Memorial Hermann Health Care System
- **Tammy Merkel**, Trinity Health
- **Melody F. Dickerson, RN, M.S.N., C.C.R.N.**, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center
- **Kathleen S. Gillespie, B.S.N.**, Virtua

Hospital executives, epidemiologists and quality and clinical leaders are invited to learn more about the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare and the hand hygiene project. Information about the call and a registration form is available on the Joint Commission Connect extranet site. A transcript and playback option will be available on the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare [Web site](#) and on the Joint Commission Connect extranet site, following the program. (Cathy Barry-Ipema, [cipema@jointcommission.org](mailto:cipema@jointcommission.org))

### **Staffing effectiveness requirements available for second field review**

The Joint Commission is conducting a second field [review](#) of revised staffing effectiveness requirements for the hospital and long term care programs. This round of revisions includes further refinements made in response to comments from the first field engagement, which was conducted in spring 2009. Comments will be gathered through October 7, 2009. For the background on this field review, see the August 5, 2009 issue of [Joint Commission Online](#). (Contact: Laura Smith, [lsmith@jointcommission.org](mailto:lsmith@jointcommission.org))

## **Joint Commission Resources**

### **Free briefings on HCSS Certification in New York and Florida**

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 Health Care Staffing Certification Manual (a \$100 value), the Certification Handbook, and Review Process Guide. The briefings will be held:

- October 1, 9:30-11 a.m., Long Island Jewish Health System, Great Neck, N.Y.
- October 20, 9 a.m.-noon, Florida Hospital, Winter Park, Fla.

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

### **Home Care Executive Briefings: Attend in person or via video**

This year's Home Care Executive Briefing, to be held November 4, 2009, at The Joint Commission Central Office in Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., allows attendance in person or virtually through live or archived streaming video. The briefing will provide new information that leaders need to stay up-to-date as well as an opportunity to discuss the critical issues surrounding quality and safety for home care providers. The briefing will help you:

- Understand how accreditation can be a valuable resource in effectively addressing changing industry trends and patient expectations.
- Learn about changes to the Periodic Performance Review (PPR) and survey process.
- Determine how the enhanced survey process will affect your organization.
- Use resources related to the National Patient Safety Goals to determine areas of potential patient risk or organizational risk, and liability.
- Identify effective strategies for complying with challenging standards.
- Explain how Lean and Six Sigma tools can be implemented at your organization to achieve and sustain improvement and enhance return on investment.

Expand your learning experience by attending the Home Care Accreditation Primer and Home Care Accreditation Essentials seminars to be held November 1-3. For more information or to register, click on the seminars referenced below or call Joint Commission Resources Customer Service toll free at (877) 223-6866. The Home Care Essentials seminar is also available via live or archived streaming video. Visit the JCR [Web site](#) for more information about live or archived streaming video.

[November 1, 2009 – Home Care Accreditation: A Primer for Beginners](#)

[November 2-3, 2009 – Home Care Accreditation Essentials](#)

[November 4 – Home Care Executive Briefing](#)

(Contact: Alma Harrell, [aharrell@jcrinc.com](mailto:aharrell@jcrinc.com))

### **Live streaming video and on-demand seminars and conferences**

Joint Commission Resources new live streaming video and on-demand seminars and conferences are two convenient options that allow participants to experience popular education offerings in the convenience of their office and at an affordable price. Live streaming video allows participation as the seminar or conference happens. On-demand allows participants to watch the seminar or conference in its entirety or one session at a time. Educate your entire team and provide shared knowledge from which to approach challenges in your organization. Visit the JCR [Web site](#) for the current listing of live streaming video and on-demand programs.

#### **Live streaming video**

- Home Care Accreditation Essentials: November 2-3, 2009
- Home Care Executive Briefings: November 4, 2009
- Credentialing, Privileging and Other Requirements: November 5-6, 2009

#### **On-demand**

- Hospital Update
- 2010 Hospital Executive Briefings
- Home Care Accreditation Essentials
- Home Care Executive Briefings
- Credentialing, Privileging and Other Requirements

#### **Coming in January 2010**

- 2010 National Patient Safety Goals
- 2010 Infection, Prevention and Control Standards
- 2010 Medication Standards
- 2010 Physical Environment Standards

(Contact: Leslie LaBelle, [llabelle@jointcommission.org](mailto:llabelle@jointcommission.org))

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