Joint Commission Accreditation for Hospice Organizations

Helping you deliver “best-in-class” care for patients with life-limiting illnesses and their families
Why accreditation?

Accreditation is a periodic external evaluation by recognized experts that provides impartial evidence of the quality of care delivered to patients.

Preparing for accreditation affords your organization the opportunity for an in-depth review of its patient safety and care delivery processes. Achieving accreditation demonstrates your organization’s ongoing commitment to safeguard your patients, staff and brand.

Why Joint Commission accreditation?

**Reputation and Recognition**

Nationally recognized by CMS for hospice Medicare certification, we are the only accreditor currently recognized for the maximum six-year term (renewed in 2009). We are also recognized by many states for licensure requirements.

Our recognitions can help you:
- Reduce duplicative surveys
- Minimize staff interruptions
- Position your business for growth
- Ensure compliance with state regulations
- Meet payor and referral source requirements

**Continuum Perspective**

As the only accreditor to represent the entire continuum of care, our accredited hospices are immediately recognized for their deep abiding commitment to quality end of life care. Achieving our coveted “Gold Seal of Approval” can better position your hospice as a quality-oriented partner within care transition teams and among emerging accountable care organizations.

Take the first steps! Call us today to learn how we can help differentiate the quality of your services in the market. 630-792-5070.
**Supporting Growth**
For hospice organizations looking to grow and/or expand operations, Joint Commission accreditation can become a key management tool for leadership. Achieving accreditation helps create internal efficiencies and strengthen existing processes which better position your company for future growth.

**Multidisciplinary Focus**
Our hospice program’s guiding principles are to help you deliver competent, compassionate, and coordinated care.

Our program requirements are developed in conjunction with advisory groups of your peers and strive to capture areas that most critically impact hospice care such as: pain and medication management, reducing infections, and improving communication among caregivers.

Our hospice surveyors optimize their onsite time with you by using a patient “tracer” process to assess standards compliance. This unique approach enables your hospice to better understand the strengths and weaknesses of its processes in “real time.”

**Resources**
At every step of the accreditation process, we provide resources to meet your needs:
- Free online informational toolkits and webinars to help you get started.
- A specifically-trained Account Executive is assigned to provide you a single point of contact from application to survey and beyond.
- Dedicated surveyor teams and pre-survey teleconferences ensure an expedient and efficient onsite survey process for larger, multisite hospice organizations.
- A Standards “Help Desk” staffed with hospice experts can answer requirement-related questions.
- A secure extranet site houses all your key Joint Commission communications in one convenient location.
- Timely scheduling of onsite surveys.
Achieve, Maintain, and Demonstrate Consistent Excellence

An Overview of the Joint Commission’s Accreditation and Specialty Certification Process

For Nursing Care Centers

Nationally Recognized Standards
- Enhanced requirements address critical patient safety and overall quality issues including staff competency, medication management, infection control, and patient education
- Process-focused; elements of performance and safety provide a comprehensive foundation for quality
- Developed with feedback from advisory groups of providers and key stakeholders

Intracycle Monitoring
- Process guides and supports your ongoing quality improvement efforts
- Opportunities at 12 and 24 months post survey for dedicated Touch Point session with our experienced Standards Interpretation Group

Onsite Evaluation
- Patient and system tracers to proactively identify risks and high-performing areas
- Experienced surveyors share best practices and insights to help you address challenging areas
- Collaborative learning environment for leadership and staff

Tools & Resources
- Center for Transforming Healthcare provides interactive tools that help accredited organizations achieve high reliability and address challenging areas
- Leading Practice Library
- TST™ tool provides interactive online method to address infection control and hand-off communication challenges