July 2013

Have you seen our new JC Physician blog?
The introductory JC Physician blog talks about how The Joint Commission supports the work of physicians and the second one talks about the importance of simulated emergency exercises. The blog publishes every other Wednesday. Our regular physician contributors are: Daniel Castillo, M.D., M.B.A.; Ana McKee, M.D.; Paul Schyve, M.D.; Robert Wise, M.D.; and Ron Wyatt, M.D., M.H.A. Sign up to receive new blog posts!

The Joint Commission, AMA-PCPI® recommend strategies to minimize overuse of five treatments

"Proceedings from the National Summit on Overuse" provides detailed recommendations on: overuse of antibiotics for viral upper respiratory infections (URIs); over-transfusion of red blood cells; tympanostomy tubes for middle ear effusion of brief duration; early-term non-medically indicated elective delivery; and elective percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI).

Joint Commission awarded ONC Health IT contract

On July 2, The Joint Commission announced that it received a contract from the federal Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) to address one of the key recommendations made in the Institute of Medicine report, "Health IT and Patient Safety: Building Safer Systems for Better Care."

Take the survey about proposed standards for sample medication use - Deadline for comments is August 6

Questions about Standards?

If you have a comment or question about a standard, submit it here.

News links

- Too much noise from hospital alarms poses risk for patients | The Washington Post
- Update: Severe Respiratory Illness Associated with Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) - Worldwide, 2012-2013 | Morbidity and Morality Weekly Report
- Seven years, zero CLABSIs: How a California hospital did it | Patient Safety & Quality Healthcare
- Birthrights: Rise of C-sections has mothers, hospitals examining delivery processes | The Daily News
- Multicomponent interventions help patients quit smoking | The Clinical Advisor
- Researchers recommend three steps to reduce post-surgical staph infections | Infection Control Today

- Why patient-centered communication matters
- Free guide for NPSG on preventing surgical site infections
- The latest on time-outs and wrong site surgery