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**Perspectives** article explores benefits of self reporting sentinel events

An article published in the September 2014 issue of *Joint Commission Perspectives* explores the benefits to organizations of self reporting a sentinel event and how it improves patient safety. Joint Commission-accredited organizations are encouraged, but not mandated, to self report sentinel events. In fact, about 70 percent of the reviewable sentinel events received by The Joint Commission Office of Quality and Patient Safety (OQPS) are self reported. Written by Kimberly S. Anderson-Drevs, R.N., M.S.N., CPPS, patient safety specialist, OQPS, "Why organizations self report sentinel events to The Joint Commission" features three organizations that chose to self report and looks at their experience with the process. To learn more about working with the OQPS on reviewable sentinel events, call 630-792-3700 or e-mail seu@jointcommission.org.

Nominations for John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award due September 30

Showcase your important patient safety and quality work by applying for a 2014 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award. The award recognizes major achievements for individuals and organizations in improving patient safety and health care quality. More information and application forms are available on [The Joint Commission](https://www.jointcommission.org) and [National Quality Forum](https://www.qualityforum.org) websites. Applications are due to the National Quality Forum by September 30, 2014.

DTCP sets new goal for increasing organ donation; conference provides quality strategies

The Donation and Transplantation Community of Practice (DTCP), a consortium of organ procurement organizations (OPOs), donor hospitals, transplant centers and other partners involved in the donation process, has set a new goal to increase the number of organ transplants by 1,000 each year during the next five years. The new DTCP goal provides the community with a clear, outcomes-based target for improvement. DTCP-participating organizations will work to meet the goal by:

- Promoting education and training to build a culture of donation and transplantation in each hospital
- Collaborating to redefine performance metrics that promote increased transplantation
- Recognizing high performing donor hospitals, transplant centers and OPOs.

The Joint Commission has been an active participant in the DTCP since the launch of the Organ Donation Breakthrough Collaborative in 2003.

In addition to the activities surrounding the new goal, the American Foundation for Donation and Transplantation is holding the first Transplant Quality Institute, October 8-10, in Atlanta, to provide the tools and information to improve a transplant program’s quality. [To register](https://www.afdt.org/qualityinstitute), visit the AFDT website.

(Contact: Mark Crafoft, mcrafoft@jointcommission.org)
Accreditation

Effective immediately: Additional standards revisions for deemed ASCs to align with CMS

Effective immediately, additional standards revisions have been made to align with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services’ (CMS’) Conditions for Coverage (CfCs) for ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs) with deemed status. In February, The Joint Commission reapplied to CMS for deeming authority for ASCs. In response to CMS’ review of its application, The Joint Commission developed and revised several elements of performance for ASCs that use the deemed status option. These changes are in addition to those announced in the July 23 Joint Commission Online that were made as a result of CMS’ burden reduction efforts. Additional changes may be announced in the future. The revised elements of performance are available on The Joint Commission website and in the E-dition®. For a discussion of the changes, see the blog post by Michael Kulczycki, executive director, Ambulatory Health Care. (Contact: Joyce Webb, jwebb@jointcommission.org.)

Resources

New on the Web
• Recording and slides from August 29 teleconference: The Savvy PSC: Review of the 2014 Primary Stroke Center Certification Standards
• Newsletter: Quick Safety Issue Five, Preventing violent and criminal events

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