



# CARDIAC CERTIFICATION

Achieving excellence beyond  
accreditation



The Joint Commission



# JOINT COMMISSION CERTIFICATION—ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE BEYOND ACCREDITATION

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## Accreditation is Just the Beginning

When it comes to accreditation, no organization can match The Joint Commission's experience and knowledge. This legacy of excellence and robust expertise is applied with equal passion and rigor to cardiac certification programs, putting the tools, knowledge and guidance you need to deliver continuously reliable and excellent care to high-risk cardiac patient populations.

## The Power of Single-Provider Partnership

With a suite of certification offerings covering your entire spectrum of services, The Joint Commission provides benefits no a la carte provider can, including:

- Avoiding costly and inefficient disparate processes
- Creating seamless logistical implementation
- Tailoring certification efforts to your specific needs
- Establishing a unified platform for consistent care delivery

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## Elevating Cardiac Care Across the Continuum

Only The Joint Commission has developed a wide array of programs across every touch point in the cardiac care continuum to help you create and sustain a truly patient-centric quality framework.



### **Comprehensive Cardiac Center Certification**

Our newest program provides system-wide reviews and recommendations to help lift your entire organization from excellent to elite.

### **Core Certification Programs**

Enhance your specific cardiac specialties with focused certifications for everything from Chest Pain and Coronary Artery Disease to Heart Failure and Hypertension.

### **Advanced Certification Programs**

Go beyond excellence with advanced certification programs for your Heart Failure and Ventricular Assist Device practices.

# COMPREHENSIVE CARDIAC CENTER (CCC) CERTIFICATION

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CCC certification is a voluntary program for hospitals with robust cardiac care services seeking to evaluate, evolve and elevate patient care across an extensive array of cardiac domains.

Developed in partnership with a technical advisory panel of clinicians with specific expertise in the field, this new program is designed to recognize Joint Commission-accredited hospitals demonstrating consistent, comprehensive excellence.

## Deliver Superior Quality of Care Across the Cardiac Continuum

CCC certification touches every point in your continuum of care, so that you can provide world-class patient-centric service.

*“ This certification... allows us to say we passed a certain high bar and that we do function as a very integrated unit. ”*

Dr. Alan Yeung, MD  
The Li Ka Shing Professor in Cardiology  
Stanford University School of Medicine



**ACUTE  
MYOCARDIAL  
INFARCTION**



**CARDIAC  
REHABILITATION**



**HEART  
FAILURE**



**ARRHYTHMIA  
MANAGEMENT**



**CARDIAC ARREST/  
RESUSCITATION**



**INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM**



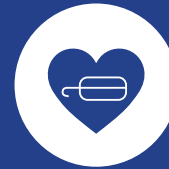
**ST ELEVATION  
MYOCARDIAL  
INFARCTION**



**CORONARY  
ARTERY  
BYPASS**



**PERCUTANEOUS  
CORONARY  
INTERVENTION**



**DIAGNOSTIC  
CARDIAC  
CATHETERIZATION  
PROCEDURE**



**VALVE  
REPLACEMENT/  
REPAIR**

# COMPREHENSIVE CARDIAC CENTER (CCC) CERTIFICATION

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## Top 5 Reasons to Pursue CCC Certification

Here are just a few ways your organization—and your patients—can benefit from this innovative certification.

1. Reduce unwanted variations in care and improve the patient experience
2. Improve efficiency and outcomes at a potential lower cost
3. Align communication and collaboration among all disciplines
4. Position your service line to effectively face new challenges
5. Promote a culture of excellence to boost retention and recruitment of talent

## **Achieving CCC Certification will help your organization provide the following:**

- Integrated, coordinated care
- Care, treatment and services required by a certified comprehensive cardiac center
- Early identification of high-risk patients and management of patients' conditions and risks at a level corresponding to the center's capabilities
- Direct care for high-risk problems and stabilization and safe transfer of patients who require care beyond the organization's scope
- Patient education and information to help them make informed decisions about their care
- Ongoing quality improvement processes, including center-specific requirements, Joint Commission required measures and participation in nationally audited data registries



## FEATURED CERTIFICATIONS

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### Chest Pain Certification

Achieve this highly valued certification that combines a review of Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) and Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) and meets many state requirements for chest pain certification.

#### Eligibility & Requirements

*Certification requirements for a chest pain program address three areas:*

- Compliance with consensus-based national standards.
- Effective and consistent use of appropriate, evidence-based clinical practice guidelines for the AMI and ACS patient populations.
- Collection and analysis of a minimum of four performance measures specific to the chest pain patient population (a minimum of two performance measures must be clinical in nature).

#### Standards Covered

- Uses standards for Disease-Specific Care certification. All Disease-Specific Care certifications are built on the same framework. This framework is a strong foundation for a well-run disease-management program.
- Awarded for a two-year period. At the end of the first year, the organization is required to attest to its continued compliance with standards and provide evidence of performance improvement activities.





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## Advanced Heart Failure Certification

Elevate your ability to deliver best-in-class service and care with The Joint Commission's Advanced Certification in Heart Failure (ACHF) program.

Meet the standards, choose and implement clinical practice guidelines and measure against standardized performance measures which provide for assessment, monitoring, management and performance improvement for heart failure care across settings. There is a special focus on the inpatient setting and a thorough assessment of care, including transition to outpatient heart failure care providers.

### Eligibility & Requirements

*Your organization is eligible to earn the ACHF if you:*

- Meet eligibility requirements outlined in the *Comprehensive Certification Manual for Disease-Specific Care Including Advanced Programs for Disease-Specific Care*
- Have an established inpatient heart failure clinical treatment program
- Provide ambulatory care services through a hospital-based and hospital-owned heart failure clinic OR a collaborative relationship with one or more cardiology practices

### Standards & Guidelines

- Uses advanced Disease-Specific Care standards and additional expectations for transition of care
- Organization chooses and implements heart failure clinical practice guidelines

## CORE CERTIFICATION

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Our core certifications help create a baseline of consistent excellence upon which you can build a care delivery framework to positively impact patient outcomes. These foundational programs encompass three main components—standards, clinical practice guidelines, and performance measurement.

You may also choose up to four non-standardized outcome measures that will be monitored and reported on an on-going basis:

- At least two measures must be clinical
- Up to two measures may be non-clinical (administrative, utilization, financial)

### Portfolio includes:

- ▶ **Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm**
- ▶ **Acute Coronary Syndrome**
- ▶ **Acute Myocardial Infarction**
- ▶ **Aortic Aneurysm**
- ▶ **Atrial Fibrillation**
- ▶ **Cardiac Valve Repair and Replacement**
- ▶ **Carotid Stenosis**
- ▶ **Chest Pain**
- ▶ **Coronary Artery Bypass Graft**
- ▶ **Coronary Artery Disease**
- ▶ **Heart Failure**
- ▶ **Hyperlipidemia**
- ▶ **Hypertension**
- ▶ **Percutaneous Coronary Intervention**
- ▶ **Peripheral Vascular Disease**

## Eligibility & Requirements for Core Certification

To be eligible for a core certifications, programs must:

- Be located in the United States, operated by the U.S. government, or operated under a charter of the U.S. Congress.
- Be provided within a Joint Commission–accredited organization when the organization is eligible for accreditation. (Does not apply to VAD program).
- Have served a minimum of 10 patients at the time it submits its Joint Commission application. (VAD programs need to have served 1 patient at the time of application).
- Use a standardized method of delivering clinical care based on clinical practice guidelines and/or evidence-based practice.
- Use performance measurement to improve its performance over time. Four months of performance measure data must be available at the time of the initial certification on-site review (for recertification, 24 months of data is required).

**All core DSC programs follow the same format. There are five sections where the requirements are contained.**

1. Program Management (DSPR)
2. Delivering or facilitating clinical care (DSDF)
3. Supporting self-management (DSSE)
4. Clinical information management (DSCT)
5. Performance measurement (DSPM)

## ADVANCED CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

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These programs are an ideal fit for organizations seeking to meet and surpass clinical requirements and expectations in select areas.

Our advanced certifications include standardized, predetermined measures. All programs must collect program-specific patient satisfaction data in addition to the performance measures.

Go above and beyond with advanced certification in:

- Heart Failure (see page 9 for details)
- Ventricular Assist Device

***92% of our customers tell us Joint Commission certification directly impacts the safety and quality of patient outcomes.\****

*\*Value of Certification Survey, February 2016*

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## Ventricular Assist Device (VAD)

Be recognized as an organization that meets rigorous standards to support better outcomes for destination therapy to an adult population.

### Eligibility & Requirements

Our VAD Destination Therapy Program requirements are based on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requirements, which address the following:

- Meet eligibility requirements outlined in the *Comprehensive Certification Manual for Disease-Specific Care Including Advanced Programs for Disease-Specific Care*
- Patient eligibility for VAD
- Provision and coordination of patient care
- Criteria related to licensed independent practitioner and staff education, training, and competencies
- Provision and coordination of postsurgical care

### Standards & Guidelines

- Uses DSC standards and additional expectations for transition of care
- Organization chooses and implements VAD clinical practice guidelines

## BENEFITS OF WORKING WITH THE JOINT COMMISSION ENTERPRISE

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Joint Commission certification can help you elevate your ability to deliver the level of care and safety your patients deserve. And to help you prepare for success during the certification process—and to address quality issues beyond—we provide you with a host of trusted, expert resources.

To further advance knowledge and expertise across your spectrum of services, our not-for-profit affiliate, Joint Commission Resources, provides an extensive offering designed to keep you and your staff on the cutting edge of cardiac excellence, including:

- Interactive Conferences, Seminars & Webinars
- Books, Manuals & Publications
- Innovative Software Solutions
- In-depth Consultative Services\*

To learn more, **visit [jcrinc.com](http://jcrinc.com) today.**

*\*The use of Joint Commission Resources (JCR) consulting services is not necessary to obtain a Joint Commission Accreditation award, nor does it influence the granting of such awards.*

## Your Source for Cardiac Certification

Whether you're looking to elevate a single cardiac specialty or strengthen your performance across your entire care continuum, The Joint Commission can help. With a comprehensive suite of offerings to choose from—backed by the expertise and insight of our robust cardiac care experience—you will find the guidance, knowledge and framework you need to achieve improved outcomes and continued success.



### Reach out today.

For more information on Joint Commission cardiac certification, please contact us at **[certification@jointcommission.org](mailto:certification@jointcommission.org)** today.



