

Medication Compounding Certification



**Your Fast Track to Improve Safety
and Achieve Compliance**

Scrutinized more than ever, medication compounding adds to an organization's risk for potentially harming patients, staff, and the environment.

Recently implemented by Michigan (see next page), many state pharmacy boards are considering mandatory certification for medication compounding as an objective validation of USP General Chapter <797> standards-driven performance. In addition, several other states have passed laws requiring pharmacies performing sterile compounding pharmaceuticals to be in compliance with USP General Chapter <797>. In response, The Joint Commission now offers its Medication Compounding Certification to help compounding pharmacies achieve optimal safety and high reliability in compounding practices.

This new certification recognizes organizations that demonstrate excellence through compliance with Joint Commission standards for medication compounding founded on the United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP) standards. The certification keeps pace with the latest technology and provides an independent evaluation and validation of compliance with:

- USP General Chapter <797> (process, testing, and verification of compounded sterile preparations, including recent updates)
- USP General Chapter <795> (nonsterile preparations)
- New! USP General Chapter <800> (practice and quality standards for hazardous drugs) to be implemented by January 1, 2019

The certification was developed using input from expert pharmacists having specific expertise in sterile and nonsterile compounding.



The Gold Seal of Approval®

For more than 60 years, the name “The Joint Commission” has been synonymous with quality, safety, and performance improvement. Our standards are recognized as the most rigorous in the industry, our surveyors and reviewers are some of the most knowledgeable in their field, and our accredited and certified organizations rank among the top in their markets. No other “seal of approval” is as widely recognized by peers, payors, insurers, and the public as The Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval. The Joint Commission is committed to continuously improving the quality and safety of care provided to the public.



The Risks of Compounding

Pew's Drug Safety Project identified over 25 reported compounding errors or potential errors associated with 1,076 adverse events, including 90 deaths, since 2001.

The Pew Charitable Trusts, Drug Safety Project,
October 14, 2015



How Your Organization Benefits

- Reduce risk and harm
- Help ensure USP compliance
- Discover and remedy hidden gaps in policies and procedures
- Engage staff in improvements
- Access to The Joint Commission's Leading Practices Library
- Receive the world's most recognized “seal of approval”



Eligibility

Compounding pharmacies that provide sterile and nonsterile compounding services are eligible to apply for certification. An earned certification is good for two years. You do not need to be a Joint Commission-accredited organization to obtain this certification.

Learning-Based Reviews Drive Improvements

Risks and standards compliance are assessed during an onsite review conducted by pharmacists with specific training and experience in evaluating USP compliance. Reviewers establish a positive learning environment, using individual and system tracers to evaluate processes, personnel training, and facility design. The Joint Commission's Survey Analysis for Evaluating Risk (SAFER™) approach helps organizations not only identify risks but prioritize and focus on corrective actions. Teams are provided with evidence-based practices they can emulate to achieve compliance and improve performance. The review's duration depends on the number of locations conducting sterile compounding services within the organization; one to two days is typical for most pharmacies.

How to Get Started

1. Get a 90 day trial of the standards by visiting our website. The standards of this certification program are aligned with the USP standards. Meeting these standards can help show your patients that you are providing quality compounded medications.
2. Conduct a gap analysis. Whether you have internal resources to conduct an assessment, or are looking for an external objective view, this is an important step in gauging compliance and priorities.
3. Contact us to apply or visit our website <https://www.jointcommission.org/certification/mdccert.aspx>.



80+ Michigan Organizations Achieve Medication Compounding Certification

The Michigan Compounding Pharmacy Law of 2014 requires that licensed pharmacies performing compounding services for sterile pharmaceuticals must obtain accreditation. In response, the Michigan Board of Pharmacy approved The Joint Commission Medication Compounding Certification and eligible pharmacies to maintain their certifications.



Focus Areas for High Performance

- + Planning
- + Selection and procurement
- + Storage
- + Ordering and transcribing
- + Preparation and dispensing
- + Monitoring and evaluation

