



Standards Review Panel Description

When developing or revising its standards, The Joint Commission strives for its requirements to have the following characteristics:

- Strong evidence base that care will lead to better outcomes, or overwhelming consensus opinion that a care element is a best practice
- Supports a health care organization's delivery of safe, quality care
- Compelling benefits to patients and/or staff that justify costs

To accomplish this, The Joint Commission always engages stakeholders to evaluate its draft standards. Traditionally, The Joint Commission has assembled a technical advisory panel composed of an external group of key stakeholders and experts in a particular area or topic. In addition, we have conducted a field review in which anyone can comment. The field reviews are extremely valuable, and we will continue to conduct these. However, the response rate is usually quite low, and we have no way of knowing whether the comments are a true representation of the attitudes of the full provider community.

To address this, we are adding the standards review panel (SRP) to our review process. The panel provides a complementary perspective to the other long-established modes of feedback, i.e., field review and technical advisory panel.

Standards review panels may be formed depending on Joint Commission project needs and are composed of varying disciplines including, but not limited to, nurses, pharmacists, and physicians. The members of a standards review panel are nominated by Joint Commission-accredited customers or professional associations. When forming the panel, Joint Commission staff select members to ensure that different viewpoints are adequately represented. Members are selected who can provide a "boots on the ground" point of view and give insights into the practical application of proposed standards. While panel members are chosen for their knowledge and experience related to a particular clinical area, they are not required to be a national expert on the specific topic under evaluation.

2016 Standards Review Panel Members for the revised pain standards

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