

Prepublication Requirements

• Issued June 20, 2022 •



New and Revised Requirements Related to Reducing Health Care Disparities

The Joint Commission has approved the following revisions for prepublication. While revised requirements are published in the semiannual updates to the print manuals (as well as in the online *E-dition*®), accredited organizations and paid subscribers can also view them in the monthly periodical *The Joint Commission Perspectives*®. To begin your subscription, call 800-746-6578 or visit <http://www.jcrinc.com>.

Please note: Where applicable, this report shows current standards and EPs first, with deleted language struck-through. Then, the revised requirement follows in bold text, with new language underlined.

APPLICABLE TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Effective January 1, 2023

Leadership (LD) Chapter

LD.04.03.08

Reducing health care disparities for the individuals served by the organization is a quality and safety priority.

Element(s) of Performance for LD.04.03.08

1. The organization designates an individual(s) to lead activities to reduce health care disparities for the population served by the organization. □ □
Note: Leading the organization’s activities to reduce health care disparities may be an individual’s primary role or part of a broader set of responsibilities.

2. The organization assesses the health-related social needs of the individual served and provides information about community resources and support services. □ (D)
Note 1: Organizations determine which health-related social needs to include in the individual assessment. Examples of an individual’s health-related social needs may include the following:
 - Access to transportation
 - Difficulty paying for prescriptions or medical bills
 - Education and literacy
 - Food insecurity
 - Housing insecurity**Note 2:** Health-related social needs may be identified for a representative sample of the individuals served by the organization or for all individuals served by the organization.

Key: (D) indicates that documentation is required;

(R) indicates an identified risk area;

3. The organization identifies health care disparities in the population it serves by stratifying quality and safety data using the sociodemographic characteristics of the individuals served by the organization. D
Note 1: Organizations may focus on areas with known disparities identified in the scientific literature (for example, treatment for substance abuse disorder, restraint use, suicide rates) or select measures that affect all individuals (for example, experience of care and communication).
Note 2: Organizations determine which sociodemographic characteristics to use for stratification analyses. Examples of sociodemographic characteristics may include the following:
 - Age
 - Gender
 - Preferred language
 - Race and ethnicity
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4. The organization develops a written action plan that describes how it will address at least one of the health care disparities identified in the individuals it serves. D
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5. The organization acts when it does not achieve or sustain the goal(s) in its action plan to reduce health care disparities. D
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6. At least annually, the organization informs key stakeholders, including leaders, licensed practitioners, and staff, about its progress to reduce identified health care disparities.

Record of Care, Treatment, and Services (RC) Chapter

RC.02.01.01

The clinical/case record contains information that reflects the care, treatment, or services provided to the individual served.

Element(s) of Performance for RC.02.01.01

26. ~~For organizations that elect The Joint Commission Behavioral Health Home option:~~ For the purpose of identifying disparities in care, treatment, or services, the clinical/case record contains the individual's race and ethnicity.
26. For the purpose of identifying disparities in care, treatment, or services, the clinical/case record contains the individual's race and ethnicity.

Key: **D** indicates that documentation is required; **R** indicates an identified risk area;

Rights and Responsibilities of the Individual (RI) Chapter

RI.01.01.01

The organization respects the rights of the individual served.

Element(s) of Performance for RI.01.01.01

29. The organization prohibits discrimination based on age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, language, physical or mental disability, socioeconomic status, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression.

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