Revisions and Deletions Related to the
Standards Simplification Project
Critical Access Hospital (CAH) Accreditation Program

Environment of Care (EC) Chapter

EC.02.05.05

Current Requirement Text:

The critical access hospital inspects, tests, and maintains utility systems.
Note: At times, maintenance is performed by an external service. In these cases, critical access hospitals are not required to possess maintenance documentation but must have access to such documentation during survey and as needed.

EC.02.05.05	**EP:** 1	EC.02.06.05	**EP:** 2
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Consolidated	**New EP Text:**	
When performing repairs or maintenance activities, the critical access hospital has a process to manage risks associated with air-quality requirements; infection control; utility requirements; noise, odor, dust, vibration; and other hazards that affect care, treatment, or services for patients, staff, and visitors.		When planning for demolition, construction, renovation, or general maintenance, the critical access hospital conducts a preconstruction risk assessment for air quality requirements, infection control, utility requirements, noise, vibration, and other hazards that affect care, treatment, and services and mitigates the identified risks. Note: See LS.01.02.01 for information on fire safety procedures to implement during construction or renovation.	

EC.02.06.05

Current Requirement Text:

The critical access hospital manages its environment during demolition, renovation, or new construction to reduce risk to those in the organization.

EC.02.06.05   **EP:** 2

Current EP Text:

When planning for demolition, construction, renovation, or general maintenance, the critical access hospital conducts a preconstruction risk assessment for air quality requirements, infection control, utility requirements, noise, vibration, and other hazards that affect care, treatment, and services.
Note: See LS.01.02.01 for information on fire safety procedures to implement during construction or renovation.

Revision Type: Consolidated

EC.02.06.05   **EP:** 2

New EP Text:

When planning for demolition, construction, renovation, or general maintenance, the critical access hospital conducts a preconstruction risk assessment for air quality requirements, infection control, utility requirements, noise, vibration, and other hazards that affect care, treatment, and services and mitigates the identified risks.
Note: See LS.01.02.01 for information on fire safety procedures to implement during construction or renovation.

EC.04.01.01

Current Requirement Text:

The critical access hospital collects information to monitor conditions in the environment.

EC.04.01.01	**EP:** 1

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Revised

The critical access hospital establishes a process(es) for continually monitoring, internally reporting, and investigating the following:
- Injuries to patients or others within the critical access hospital's facilities and grounds
- Occupational illnesses and staff injuries
- Incidents of damage to its property or the property of others
- Safety and security incidents involving patients, staff, or others within its facilities, including those related to workplace violence
- Hazardous materials and waste spills and exposures
- Fire safety management problems, deficiencies, and failures
- Medical or laboratory equipment management problems, failures, and use errors
- Utility systems management problems, failures, or use errors
Note 1: All the incidents and issues listed above may be reported to staff in quality assessment, improvement, or other functions. A summary of such incidents may also be shared with the person designated to coordinate safety management activities.
Note 2: Review of incident reports often requires that legal processes be followed to preserve confidentiality. Opportunities to improve care, treatment, and services, or to prevent similar incidents, are not lost as a result of following the legal process.
(See also EC.02.01.01, EP 17)

EC.04.01.01	**EP:** 1

New EP Text:

The critical access hospital develops and implements a process(es) for continually monitoring, internally reporting, and investigating the following:
- Injuries to patients or others within the critical access hospital's facilities and grounds
- Occupational illnesses and staff injuries
- Incidents of damage to its property or the property of others
- Safety and security incidents involving patients, staff, or others within its facilities, including those related to workplace violence
- Hazardous materials and waste spills and exposures
- Fire safety management problems, deficiencies, and failures
- Medical or laboratory equipment management problems, failures, and use errors
- Utility systems management problems, failures, or use errors
- Based on the results of the data analysis, the lab identifies opportunities for improvement and resolves any environmental safety issues.
Note 1: All the incidents and issues listed above may be reported to staff in quality assessment, improvement, or other functions. A summary of such incidents may also be shared with the person designated to coordinate safety management activities.
Note 2: Review of incident reports often requires that legal processes be followed to preserve confidentiality. Opportunities to improve care, treatment, and services, or to prevent similar incidents, are not lost as a result of following the legal process.
(See also EC.02.01.01, EP 17)

EC.04.01.01	**EP:** 3

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

Based on its process(es), the critical access hospital reports and investigates the following: Injuries to patients or others in the critical access hospital's facilities.

EC.04.01.01	**EP:** 4

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

Based on its process(es), the critical access hospital reports and investigates the following: Occupational illnesses and staff injuries.

EC.04.01.01 **EP:** 5

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

Based on its process(es), the critical access hospital reports and investigates the following: Incidents of damage to its property or the property of others.

EC.04.01.01 **EP:** 6

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

Based on its process(es), the critical access hospital reports and investigates the following: Safety and security incidents involving patients, staff, or others within its facilities, including those related to workplace violence.

EC.04.01.01 **EP:** 8

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

Based on its process(es), the critical access hospital reports and investigates the following: Hazardous materials and waste spills and exposures.

EC.04.01.01 **EP:** 9

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

Based on its process(es), the critical access hospital reports and investigates the following: Fire safety management problems, deficiencies, and failures.

EC.04.01.01 **EP:** 10

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

Based on its process(es), the critical access hospital reports and investigates the following: Medical/laboratory equipment management problems, failures, and use errors.

EC.04.01.01 **EP:** 11

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

Based on its process(es), the critical access hospital reports and investigates the following: Utility systems management problems, failures, or use errors.

Human Resources (HR) Chapter

HR.01.02.01

Current Requirement Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

Physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses who practice within the critical access hospital are credentialed, privileged, and reprivileged through the medical staff process or an equivalent process.

HR.01.02.01   **EP:** 1

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

The equivalent process for credentialing and privileging physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses who practice within the critical access hospital is approved by the governing body.

HR.01.02.01   **EP:** 2

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

The equivalent process for credentialing and privileging physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses who practice within the critical access hospital includes the following:
- A documented evaluation of the applicant's credentials
- An evaluation of the applicant's current competence
- Documented peer recommendations
- Input from individuals and committees, including the medical staff, to make an informed decision regarding requests for privileges

Information Management (IM) Chapter

IM.02.02.01

Current Requirement Text:

The critical access hospital effectively manages the collection of health information.

IM.02.02.01   **EP:** 2

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

The critical access hospital uses standardized terminology, definitions, abbreviations, acronyms, symbols, and dose designations.

Leadership (LD) Chapter

LD.02.01.01

Current Requirement Text:

The mission, vision, and goals of the critical access hospital support the safety and quality of care, treatment, and services.

LD.02.01.01	**EP:** 1	**LD.02.01.01**	**EP:** 1
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Consolidated	**New EP Text:**	
The governing body, senior managers, and leaders of the organized medical staff work together to create the critical access hospital's mission, vision, and goals.		The governing body, senior managers, and leaders of the organized medical staff work together to create the critical access hospital's mission, vision, and goals, which guide the leaders' actions and are communicated to staff and the population(s) the critical access hospital serves.	

LD.02.01.01	**EP:** 2	**LD.02.01.01**	**EP:** 1
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Consolidated	**New EP Text:**	
The critical access hospital's mission, vision, and goals guide the actions of leaders.		The governing body, senior managers, and leaders of the organized medical staff work together to create the critical access hospital's mission, vision, and goals, which guide the leaders' actions and are communicated to staff and the population(s) the critical access hospital serves.	

LD.02.01.01	**EP:** 3	**LD.02.01.01**	**EP:** 1
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Consolidated	**New EP Text:**	
Leaders communicate the mission, vision, and goals to staff and the population(s) the critical access hospital serves.		The governing body, senior managers, and leaders of the organized medical staff work together to create the critical access hospital's mission, vision, and goals, which guide the leaders' actions and are communicated to staff and the population(s) the critical access hospital serves.	

LD.02.04.01

Current Requirement Text:

The critical access hospital manages conflict between leadership groups to protect the quality and safety of care.

LD.02.04.01   **EP:** 3

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

Individuals who help the critical access hospital implement the process are skilled in conflict management.
Note: These individuals may be from either inside or outside the critical access hospital.

LD.03.06.01

Current Requirement Text:

Those who work in the critical access hospital are focused on improving safety and quality.

LD.03.06.01   **EP:** 4

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

Leaders evaluate the effectiveness of those who work in the critical access hospital to promote safety and quality.

Medication Management (MM) Chapter

MM.02.01.01

Current Requirement Text:

The critical access hospital selects and procures medications.

MM.02.01.01	**EP:** 7
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Deleted

The critical access hospital follows a process to select, approve, and procure medications that are not on its formulary.
Note: This element of performance is also applicable to sample medications.

MM.02.01.01	**EP:** 9
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Deleted

Medications designated as available for dispensing or administration are reviewed at least annually based on emerging safety and efficacy information.

MM.04.01.01

Current Requirement Text:

Medication orders are clear and accurate.

MM.04.01.01	**EP:** 9
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Deleted

A diagnosis, condition, or indication for use exists for each medication ordered.
Note: This information can be anywhere in the medical record and need not be on the order itself. For example, it might be part of the medical history.

National Patient Safety Goals (NPSG) Chapter

NPSG.02.03.01

Current Requirement Text:

Report critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures on a timely basis.

NPSG.02.03.01	**EP:** 1	**NPSG.02.03.01**	**EP:** 1
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Consolidated	**New EP Text:**	
Develop written procedures for managing the critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures that address the following: - The definition of critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures - By whom and to whom critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures are reported - The acceptable length of time between the availability and reporting of critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures		Develop and implement written procedures for managing the critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures that address the following: - The definition of critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures - By whom and to whom critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures are reported - The acceptable length of time between the availability and reporting of critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures	
NPSG.02.03.01	**EP:** 2	**NPSG.02.03.01**	**EP:** 1
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Consolidated	**New EP Text:**	
Implement the procedures for managing the critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures.		Develop and implement written procedures for managing the critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures that address the following: - The definition of critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures - By whom and to whom critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures are reported - The acceptable length of time between the availability and reporting of critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures	

Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC) Chapter

PC.01.02.08

Current Requirement Text:

The critical access hospital assesses and manages the patient's risks for falls.

PC.01.02.08	**EP:** 1	PC.01.02.08	**EP:** 1
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Consolidated	**New EP Text:**	
The critical access hospital assesses the patient's risk for falls based on the patient population and setting.		The critical access hospital implements fall risk reduction interventions based on the patient population, setting, and individual patient's assessed risks.	
PC.01.02.08	**EP:** 2	PC.01.02.08	**EP:** 1
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Consolidated	**New EP Text:**	
The critical access hospital implements interventions to reduce falls based on the patient's assessed risk.		The critical access hospital implements fall risk reduction interventions based on the patient population, setting, and individual patient's assessed risks.	

PC.02.01.19

Current Requirement Text:

The critical access hospital recognizes and responds to changes in a patient's condition.
Note: Critical access hospitals are not required to create rapid response teams or medical emergency teams in order to meet this standard. The existence of these types of teams does not mean that all of the elements of performance are automatically achieved.

PC.02.01.19	**EP:** 1	PC.02.01.19	**EP:** 2
Current EP Text:	**Revision Type:** Consolidated	**New EP Text:**	
The critical access hospital follows a process for recognizing and responding as soon as a patient's condition appears to be worsening. (See also PI.03.01.01, EP 22)		The critical access hospital develops and follows written criteria describing early warning signs of a change or deterioration in a patient's condition and the appropriate action to take. (See also PI.03.01.01, EP 22)	

| **PC.02.01.19** | **EP:** 2 | **PC.02.01.19** | **EP:** 2 |

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Consolidated

New EP Text:

The critical access hospital develops and follows written criteria describing early warning signs of a change or deterioration in a patient's condition and when to seek further assistance.
(See also PI.03.01.01, EP 22)

The critical access hospital develops and follows written criteria describing early warning signs of a change or deterioration in a patient's condition and the appropriate action to take.
(See also PI.03.01.01, EP 22)

PC.03.01.07

Current Requirement Text:

The critical access hospital provides care to the patient after operative or other high-risk procedures and/or the administration of moderate or deep sedation or anesthesia.

| **PC.03.01.07** | **EP:** 4 | **PC.03.01.07** | **EP:** 4 |

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Revised

New EP Text:

A qualified physician or other licensed practitioner discharges the patient from the recovery area or from the critical access hospital. In the absence of a qualified individual, patients are discharged according to criteria approved by clinical leaders.
(See also PC.03.01.01, EP 9; RC.02.01.03, EPs 9, 10)

A qualified physician or other licensed practitioner discharges the patient from the recovery area or from the critical access hospital. In the absence of a qualified individual, patients are discharged according to criteria approved by clinical leaders.
(See also PC.03.01.01, EP 9; RC.02.01.03, EP 9)

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

RC.02.01.03

Current Requirement Text:

The patient's medical record contains documentation on any operative or other high-risk procedures and the use of moderate or deep sedation or anesthesia.

RC.02.01.03   **EP:** 10

Current EP Text: **Revision Type:** Deleted

The medical record contains documentation of the use of approved discharge criteria that determine the patient's readiness for discharge.
(See also PC.03.01.07, EP 4)