

Prepublication Requirements

• Issued December 20, 2022 •



Updates to the Advanced Disease-Specific Care Certification for Inpatient Diabetes Care

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 INPATIENT DIABETES ADVANCED CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Effective July 1, 2023

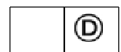
Program Management (DSPR) Chapter

DSPR.1

The program defines its leadership roles.

Element(s) of Performance for DSPR.1

4. The program leader(s) identifies, in writing, the composition of the interdisciplinary team.



Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. The interdisciplinary program team includes, at a minimum, the following disciplines:

- Licensed ~~independent~~ practitioner
- Registered nurse
- Pharmacist
- Dietitian/~~nutritionist~~
- Diabetes ~~educator~~

~~Note: The team does not need to include a diabetes educator if one of the other team members is qualified to perform the duties.~~

b. Based on patient and family needs, the interdisciplinary program team also includes individuals from the following disciplines:

- Social worker
- Case manager
- Behavioral health ~~care provider~~
- ~~Laboratory personnel~~

Key: (D) indicates that documentation is required;

(R) indicates an identified risk area;

Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. The interdisciplinary program team includes, at a minimum, **individuals from** the following disciplines:

- **Physician or other licensed practitioner**
- **Registered nurse**
- **Pharmacist**
- **Registered dietitian**
- **Diabetes care and education specialist**

b. Based on patient and family needs, the interdisciplinary program team also includes individuals from the following disciplines:

- **Social worker**
 - **Case manager**
 - **Behavioral health professional**
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5. The program leader(s) participates in designing, implementing, and evaluating care, treatment, and services.

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Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

~~a. If insulin pens are used in the organization, a policy on insulin pen use is developed, which includes at least the following:~~

- ~~- Patient identifiers required for labeling of an insulin pen~~
- ~~- Process for storing insulin pens~~
- ~~- Education of staff on safe and appropriate use of an insulin pen, including infection control~~
- ~~- Information on maintaining the integrity of an insulin pen, which can only be used for a single patient~~

~~b. The program has a protocol in place to address when a patient is unable to manage their insulin pump.~~

Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. If insulin pump therapy and/or continuous glucose monitoring is allowed in the hospital, there is a policy that includes at least the following:

- Criteria for determining whether patients will continue to use their devices while hospitalized
- A list of contraindications for continuation of the devices
- A list of staff responsibilities for when devices are continued
- A list of patient responsibilities for when the device(s) is continued
- Situations within the hospital that would require discontinuation of a device
- A plan to address when a patient is unable to manage their insulin pump

b. The program has written safety protocols for preventing insulin errors that address the following:

- Concentrated insulin use
- Insulin dosing and administration
- Coordination of insulin and nutrition
- Prescribing of glucose-lowering medications
- Management of hypoglycemia
- Insulin storage throughout the hospital
- Insulin pens, if used, are maintained for single use and labeled with patient identifiers

c. The program has written protocols for the following:

- The use of inpatient continuous glucose monitoring devices
- The management of patients on intravenous insulin infusions
- Transitioning a patient from intravenous insulin infusion to other glucose lowering agents
- Special circumstances such as enteral and parenteral nutrition and steroids

6. The program leader(s) provides for the uniform performance of care, treatment, and services.

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Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. The program uses clinical decision support, such as insulin order templates and/or structured order sets, to manage glucose levels and support medication safety practices.

8. The program leader(s) monitors the performance of the program's interdisciplinary team as it relates to achievement of the program's mission, goals, and objectives.

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Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. At least quarterly, members of the interdisciplinary team participate in diabetes management meetings related to operational issues, performance data, and opportunities for improvement. Documentation includes attendance records and meeting minutes.

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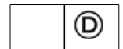
Delivering or Facilitating Clinical Care (DSDf) Chapter

DSDf.1

Practitioners are qualified and competent.

Element(s) of Performance for DSDf.1

1. Practitioners have education, experience, training, and/or certification consistent with the program's scope of services, goals and objectives, and the care provided.



Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

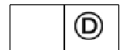
a. ~~The following groups~~ who care for patients with diabetes have education specific to policies, procedures, and patient management related to the diabetes program:

- ~~-Dietitians and others involved in medical nutrition therapy~~
- ~~-Staff involved in point-of-care testing~~
- ~~-Physicians involved in the management of patients' diabetes~~
- ~~-Nursing staff, including advanced practice nurses~~
- ~~-Pharmacists~~
- ~~-Physician assistants~~
- ~~-Interdisciplinary team~~

Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. All staff who care for patients with diabetes have education specific to policies, procedures, and patient management related to their roles and responsibilities in the diabetes program.

5. The program assesses practitioner competence on an ongoing basis. This assessment is documented.



Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. Staff are trained in recognizing and responding to symptomatic hypoglycemia.
- b. ~~Education is provided to staff on safe and appropriate use of an insulin pen.~~

Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. All staff who come in contact with patients are trained in recognizing and responding to symptomatic hypoglycemia based on their roles and responsibilities.

b. If the hospital allows the use of insulin pens, staff are educated on their safe and appropriate use, including infection control.

Note: The program determines the frequency of the training.

c. If the hospital allows patients to use insulin pumps and continuous glucose monitors, staff are educated on the policies and procedures for the operation and management of these devices.

d. Staff are educated on the coordination and timing of blood glucose monitoring, insulin administration, and meals.

DSD.F.2

The program develops a standardized process originating in clinical practice guidelines (CPGs) or evidence-based practice to deliver or facilitate the delivery of clinical care.

Element(s) of Performance for DSD.F.2

3. The program leader(s) and practitioners review and approve clinical practice guidelines prior to implementation.

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~~*Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting*~~

~~a. Written protocols are developed for the management of patients on intravenous insulin infusions.~~

5. The program demonstrates evidence that it is following the clinical practice guidelines when providing care, treatment, and services.

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~~*Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting*~~

~~a. A glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) is drawn during the admission unless the results of the patient's glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) drawn within the last three months are known, or the patient has a medical condition or has received therapy that would confound the results.~~

~~Note: This requirement excludes the gestational diabetes population.~~

~~b. A hypoglycemia protocol is developed and implemented.~~

~~c. The program determines a glucose range for patients receiving intravenous insulin according to their clinical status.~~

~~d. The program has an insulin safety protocol in place for preventing insulin errors.~~

Key: **D** indicates that documentation is required;

R indicates an identified risk area;

Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. A glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) is drawn during admission for all patients with diabetes or hyperglycemia (the American Diabetes Association defines hyperglycemia as blood glucose >140 mg/dL) unless the results of the patient's glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) drawn within the last three months are known, or the patient has a medical condition or has received therapy that would confound the results.

Note: This requirement excludes the gestational diabetes population.

b. A hypoglycemia protocol is developed and implemented.

c. The program defines a glucose range and treatment protocol for the following patients:

- Perioperative patients
- Critically ill patients
- Non-critically ill patients
- Patients receiving intravenous insulin
- Patients receiving glucocorticoid therapy
- Patients receiving enteral or parenteral nutrition
- Patients with persistent hyperglycemia
- Patients with poor oral intake or who are NPO (nothing by mouth)

d. The program defines hypoglycemia and persistent hyperglycemia based on clinical practice guidelines, such as the American Diabetes Association Standards of Care in Diabetes, and its program-specific population.

DSDF.3

The program is implemented through the use of clinical practice guidelines selected to meet the patient's needs.

Element(s) of Performance for DSDF.3

2. The assessment(s) and reassessment(s) are completed according to the patient's needs and clinical practice guidelines.

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Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. ~~Nutritional assessments are conducted for patients not consistently reaching glucose targets.~~

b. A reassessment of blood glucose levels for patients experiencing hypoglycemia is completed according to the program's hypoglycemia protocol.

Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. The program defines which patients must be seen by a registered dietitian during hospitalization (for example, patients with a new diabetes diagnosis, unmanaged glucose levels, diabetic ketoacidosis).
- b. A reassessment of blood glucose levels for patients experiencing hypoglycemia is completed according to the program's hypoglycemia protocol and clinical practice guidelines.

3. The program implements care, treatment, and services based on the patient's assessed needs.

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Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. A process for blood glucose monitoring is established that reflects meal distribution and medications received, including correctional doses.
- b. A plan for coordinating administration of insulin and delivery of meals is implemented.

Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. The program addresses the coordination and timing of blood glucose monitoring, administration of insulin, and meals.

DSD.F.4

The program develops a plan of care that is based on the patient's assessed needs.

Element(s) of Performance for DSD.F.4

1. The plan of care is developed using an interdisciplinary approach and patient participation.

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~~Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting~~

- a. ~~The program develops a written protocol for transitioning a patient from intravenous insulin infusion to other glucose-lowering agents.~~

2. The program individualizes the plan of care for each patient.

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Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. Written blood glucose monitoring protocols for patients with known diabetes are developed and include, at a minimum, the following:
- Measuring blood glucose upon admission
 - A plan for subsequent monitoring based on the patient's:
 - Type of diabetes
 - Desired level of control
 - Current treatment(s) (for example, use of steroids, total parenteral nutrition [TPN])
 - Comorbidities and medical illnesses
 - Dietary status, including when the patient cannot have anything by mouth (NPO)
- b. The program identifies a target glucose range for patients who are critically ill.
- c. A plan for the treatment of hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia based on clinical practice guidelines is established for each patient.
- d. The program follows a protocol for initiating insulin therapy to treat persistent hyperglycemia.
- e. The program follows a protocol for treatment of patients with poor oral intake or who are NPO.

Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. Written blood glucose monitoring plans for patients with known diabetes are developed and include, at a minimum, the following:
- Measuring blood glucose upon admission
 - A plan for subsequent monitoring based on the patient's:
 - Type of diabetes
 - Desired level of control
 - Current treatment(s) (for example, use of steroids, total parenteral nutrition [TPN], intravenous insulin infusion)
 - Comorbidities and medical illnesses
 - Dietary status, including when the patient cannot have anything by mouth (NPO)

3. The individualized plan of care is based on the patient's goals and the time frames to meet those goals.

~~**Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting**~~

- ~~a. The program establishes a process to transition the patient to the medication regimen the patient will follow post discharge.~~

4. The individualized plan of care reflects coordination of care with other programs, as determined by patient comorbidities.

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Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. The program is available for consultation to meet the needs of patients with diabetes regardless of patients' primary diagnoses.

DSDF.6

The program initiates discharge planning and facilitates arrangements for subsequent care, treatment, and services to achieve mutually agreed upon patient goals.

Element(s) of Performance for DSDF.6

1. In preparation for discharge, the program discusses and plans with the patient and family the care, treatment, and services that are needed in order to achieve the mutually agreed upon self-management plan and goals.

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Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

~~a. Prior to discharge, a program team member collaborates with patients to arrange a follow-up appointment for those patients who have had hyperglycemia in the hospital.~~

~~Note 1: The program defines criteria for identifying patients for follow-up appointments based on clinical practice guidelines.~~

~~Note 2: The follow-up appointment should be within one month of discharge with the patient's primary care provider, endocrinologist, or diabetes educator.~~

~~Note 3: A follow-up appointment does not need to be made if the patient is discharged to another facility with a primary care provider, endocrinologist, or diabetes educator who is able to manage the patient's diabetes.~~

Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. The program establishes a process to resume held medications or transition the patient to a new medication regimen the patient will follow after discharge.

b. The program provides the patient with and/or prescribes the necessary durable medical equipment, supplies, and medications to avoid any gap in care and treatment.

3. In preparation for discharge, the program communicates the patient's needs and goals to other practitioners who will continue to support the patient in achieving the desired outcomes.

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Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. The program communicates the following information to outpatient providers:

- The cause of hyperglycemia or plan to determine the cause
- Related complications and comorbidities
- Recommended treatment
- New or changed medication prescriptions
- Pending tests and follow-up needs

Supporting Self-Management (DSSE) Chapter

DSSE.1

The program involves patients in making decisions about managing their disease or condition.

Element(s) of Performance for DSSE.1

1. The program involves patients in decisions about their care, treatment, and services.

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~~*Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting*~~

~~a. If insulin pump therapy is allowed in the organization, a policy is developed for determining whether patients will continue to use their insulin pump therapy while hospitalized.~~

~~b. If insulin pump therapy is continued while the patient is hospitalized, the policy includes at least the following:~~

- ~~- A list of contraindications for continuation of a patient's insulin pump therapy~~
- ~~- Responsibilities of staff for continuation of insulin pump therapy~~
- ~~- A list of patient responsibilities for continuation of insulin pump therapy~~
- ~~- Situations within the organization that would require discontinuation of insulin pump therapy~~

2. The program assesses the patient's readiness, willingness, and ability to engage in self-management activities.

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Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. For those patients who continue to use their insulin pump and/or continuous glucose monitoring while hospitalized, at a minimum, the following are documented:

- Assessment of the patient's ability to self-manage the personal insulin pump
- The patient's understanding regarding insulin pump responsibilities

Note: Some hospitals may choose to have a signed patient agreement.

DSSE.2

The program addresses the patient's self-management plan.

Element(s) of Performance for DSSE.2

5. The program addresses the education needs of the patient regarding disease progression and health promotion. □ □

Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. The following information is reviewed with all patients and documented in their medical records prior to hospital discharge:
- The health care practitioner who will provide diabetes care after discharge
 - How to monitor blood glucose levels, including target range; appropriate use of blood glucose lowering medications, including insulin; proper use and disposal of needles and syringes; and when to call a health care practitioner
 - Recognition, treatment, and prevention of hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia
 - Referral to a diabetes care and education specialist if needed
 - Information on healthy food choices and referral to a registered dietitian if needed
 - Sick day management

DSSE.3

The program addresses the patient's education needs.

Element(s) of Performance for DSSE.3

2. The program presents content in an understandable manner according to the patient's level of literacy. □ □

Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. The interdisciplinary team incorporates the patient's health literacy and numeracy needs into the patient's education.

4. The program makes initial and ongoing assessments of the patient's comprehension of program-specific information. □ □

Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. The program assesses and/or coaches patients on the correct dosing of their medications, use of supplies and equipment, and when to seek medical care.

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Clinical Information Management (DSCT) Chapter

DSCT.5

The program initiates, maintains, and makes accessible a medical record for every patient.

Element(s) of Performance for DSCT.5

3. The medical record contains sufficient information to support the diagnosis. □ □

Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. For those patients who continue to use their insulin pump while hospitalized, at a minimum, the following are documented:

- ~~Assessment of the patient's ability to manage their insulin pump~~
- Order for insulin pump therapy to continue while hospitalized
- Basal rates
- Bolus doses, including correctional doses
- Frequency at which to change infusion set
- Date of each infusion set change
- Date of insertion site change (if not the same as set change date)
- Condition of the insertion site
- Location of the insertion site

Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. For those patients who continue to use their insulin pump while hospitalized, at a minimum, the following are documented:

- Order for insulin pump therapy to continue while hospitalized
- **Glucose readings**
- Basal rates
- **Type of insulin used in the pump**
- **Type of pump**
- Bolus doses, including correctional doses
- Frequency at which to change infusion set
- Date of each infusion set change
- Date of insertion site change (if not the same as set change date)
- Condition of the insertion site
- Location of the insertion site

5. The medical record contains sufficient information to document the course and results of care, treatment, and services. □ □

Key: **(D)** indicates that documentation is required;

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Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. Staff document all assessments and interventions provided to patients during episodes of hypoglycemia in accordance with clinical practice guidelines and hospital policy.

Performance Measurement (DSPM) Chapter

DSPM.1

The program has an organized, comprehensive approach to performance improvement.

Element(s) of Performance for DSPM.1

6. The program analyzes its performance measurement data to identify opportunities for performance improvement.

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Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

a. The program has a process for reviewing episodes of hypoglycemia and determining its contributing factors.
 Note: Hypoglycemia is defined as a blood glucose level below 70 mg/dL (ADA).

Requirements Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. The program evaluates glycemic outcomes data through its quality improvement process.
- b. The program has a process for reviewing episodes of severe hypoglycemia and determining its contributing factors. This process is documented.
Note 1: Severe hypoglycemia is defined as a blood glucose level below 54 mg/dL (level 2) per the American Diabetes Association.
Note 2: The program determines the number of episodes to review.
- c. The program has a process for reviewing episodes of severe hyperglycemia and determining its contributing factors. This process is documented.
Note 1: Severe hyperglycemia is defined as a blood glucose level above 300 mg/dL after the first 24 hours of hospitalization per the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
Note 2: The program determines the number of episodes to review.
- d. The program uses information obtained from severe hypoglycemic and severe hyperglycemic episodes to improve patient care with the goal of avoiding preventable episodes of severe hypoglycemia and severe hyperglycemia.

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DSPM.4

The program collects and analyzes data to determine variance from the clinical practice guidelines.

Element(s) of Performance for DSPM.4

1. The program tracks data variances at the patient level.

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Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. Contributing reasons for episodes of hypoglycemia are evaluated for systemic trends (for example, difficulty having food trays delivered in a timely manner, drug interactions, improper ordering or timing of insulin or anti-diabetic medications).

DSPM.5

The program evaluates patient satisfaction with the quality of care.

Element(s) of Performance for DSPM.5

2. Patient satisfaction data are utilized for program-specific performance improvement activities.

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Requirement Specific to Management of Patients with Diabetes in the Inpatient Setting

- a. The program documents issues revealed by patient satisfaction surveys related to diabetes management and disseminates the results to the interdisciplinary team to determine actions for improving the program.