**NEW:** Provision of Care Requirements for Maternal Status Assessment and Documentation

The Joint Commission recently approved three new requirements for hospitals and critical access hospitals that offer obstetric services, specifically labor and delivery. The new requirements—**effective July 1, 2018**—are at Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC) Standard PC.01.02.01. These EPs are designed to improve the identification of mothers upon admission to labor and delivery who are at risk for transmitting infectious diseases, including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B, Group B streptococcus (GBS), and syphilis to their newborns. Timely identification will ensure that the mother and/or the newborn can be treated promptly to prevent harm.

The prepublication version of the maternal status assessment and documentation standards will be available online in early January 2018 at [https://www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/prepublication_standards.aspx](https://www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/prepublication_standards.aspx). In addition, the standards will appear in the spring 2018 E-dition® release for hospitals and critical access hospitals (as well as the 2018 Update 1 print publication for the *Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Hospitals*). For more information, please contact Kathy Clark, MSN, RN, associate project director specialist, Department of Standards and Survey Methods, The Joint Commission, at kclark@jointcommission.org.

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**Official Publication of Joint Commission Requirements**

**Elements of Performance Related to Maternal Status Documentation Prior to Delivery**

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

**PC.01.02.01**

The organization assesses and reassesses its patients.

**Elements of Performance for PC.01.02.01**

14. **For organizations that provide obstetric services:** Upon admission to labor and delivery, the mother’s status of the following diseases (during the current pregnancy) is documented in the mother’s medical record:

- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)
- Hepatitis B
- Group B streptococcus (GBS)
- Syphilis

15. **For organizations that provide obstetric services:** If the mother had no prenatal care or the disease status is unknown, testing for the following diseases are performed and the results documented in the mother’s medical record:

- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)
- Hepatitis B
- Group B Streptococcus (GBS)
- Syphilis

**Note:** Because GBS test results may not be available for 24-48 hours, organizations may
Elements of Performance Related to Maternal Status Documentation Prior to Delivery (continued)

elect not to perform this test but instead administer prophylactic antibiotics to the mother.

16. For organization that provide obstetric services: If the mother tests positive for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B, group B streptococcus (GBS), or syphilis when tested in labor and delivery or during the current pregnancy, that information is also documented in the newborn’s medical record after delivery.