

# Joint Commission Online

Jan. 20, 2021

## Accreditation and certification

### Now available for some programs: 4th quarter Heads-Up Reports



Heads-Up Reports for the fourth quarter of 2020 now are available for hospitals, critical access hospitals, behavioral health care and human services, laboratories, and nursing care centers. Fourth quarter reports are not available for the Ambulatory Health Care (AHC), Home Care (OME) or Office-Based Surgery (OBS) programs, but new reports for these programs will be available in 2021.

The program-specific report identifies important topics or themes that Joint Commission surveyors are noting and citing during recent surveys. The Heads-Up Report provides clarity on what standards are being cited as well as why they are being cited. Topics for the fourth quarter are:

- Hospitals: Reduction of suicide risk
- Critical access hospitals: Staff competency
- Behavioral health care and human services: Screening for early detection of risk of imminent harm to self or others
- Laboratories: Patient monitoring and evaluation during blood transfusion
- Nursing care centers: Consistent labeling

The Joint Commission provides the Heads-Up Report as part of its ongoing efforts to continuously engage customers. The downloadable report is posted in the “Resources and Tools” section on an accredited organization’s secure Joint Commission Connect® extranet site. Primary accreditation contacts are strongly encouraged to distribute each report to departments and individuals in their organizations who are involved in the identified processes and are empowered to mitigate any potential risks.

For more information or to suggest future topics, organizations may contact their designated account executive.

### Comment on proposed new, revised standards for workplace violence prevention

Proposed new and revised standards have been developed by The Joint Commission for workplace violence prevention in the Hospital and Critical Access Hospital Accreditation programs. The standards provide a framework to guide hospitals and critical access hospitals in:

- Developing strong workplace violence prevention systems.
- Defining workplace violence.
- Developing a leadership structure, policies and procedures, reporting systems, post-incident strategies, training, and education to decrease workplace violence.

The Joint Commission is seeking feedback on these proposed new requirements and revisions.

[Comment now](#). Feedback will be accepted through Feb. 16.

### Comment now on newly proposed revisions related to resuscitation

Proposed new and revised standards have been developed by The Joint Commission for resuscitation requirements in the Hospital and Critical Access Hospital Accreditation programs.

This is the second field review for these proposed requirements, with the first having gone out in June to August of 2020. The proposed requirements have been revised based on public comments and the updated 2020 American Heart Association Guidelines for CPR and ECC. The Joint Commission also is researching measures related to in-hospital cardiopulmonary arrest.

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The Joint Commission is seeking feedback on these proposed standards. Comment now:

- [Hospital](#)
- [Critical Access Hospital](#)

Feedback will be accepted through Feb. 22.

## Performance measurement

### New performance measure for Advanced Certification for Total Hip and Knee Replacement

Effective July 1, 2021, data collection for a new standardized performance measure assessing a patient's functional and health status postoperatively will be required for the Advanced Certification for Total Hip and Total Knee Replacement (THKR) program.

Organizations will now be required to assess not only the patient's preoperative status but also their postoperative status with the goal of converting this measure to an outcome measure in the future to show improvement after surgery.

The standardized measures for THKR Certification will now be as follows:

- THKR-1: Regional Anesthesia
- THKR-2: Postoperative Ambulation on Day of Surgery
- THKR-3: Discharge to Home
- THKR-4: Preoperative Functional/Health Status Assessment
- THKR-5: Postoperative Functional/Health Status Assessment – New Measure

All currently certified THKR organizations — as well as those seeking initial certification — are required to implement data collection on this additional standardized measure, beginning with discharges on and after July 1, 2021. The new process measure will be collected through the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeon's American Joint Replacement Registry (AJRR). Organizations will then enter monthly data points (numerator and denominator values) for the measure and report data quarterly to The Joint Commission via the Certification Measure Information Process (CMIP) extranet.

The inpatient and outpatient THKR measure specifications are detailed in the [Specification Manual for Joint Commission National Quality Measures](#). Questions regarding the measures may be sent via the Performance Measurement Network Q&A Forum at <https://manual.jointcommission.org>.

## Resources

### Up in the blogosphere with The Joint Commission

- **Improvement Insights** — [COVID-19: Bracing for the Storm](#): The article in the January 2021 issue of *The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, "Bracing for the Storm: One Health Care System's Planning for the COVID-19 Surge," details the University of Washington Medicine's (UW Medicine) adaptive disaster response to COVID-19, especially as Washington was at the epicenter of the first outbreak of the pandemic.
- **Leading Hospital Improvement** — [Public Reporting of Perinatal Care Measures](#): The Joint Commission plans to publicly report two Perinatal Care performance measures on Quality Check®, a public facing website, in late January. The following ORYX® Perinatal Care (PC) measures will be shared — PC-02-Cesarean Birth and PC-06-Unexpected Complications in Term Newborns.

Learn more about [Joint Commission Resources'](#) offerings online or call 877-223-6866.

