Accreditation and certification

Joint Commission suspends all regular surveying as of March 16

The Joint Commission is suspending all regular surveying, effective Monday, March 16. This comes after President Donald Trump declared a national emergency regarding the COVID-19 virus and is being done to assure that The Joint Commission does not interfere with the crucial work health care organizations are doing to prepare and care for their patients during this pandemic.

A small number of surveys will need to continue — such as high-risk situations — and The Joint Commission will provide more details soon.

Currently, The Joint Commission does not have an anticipated restart date, but all postponed survey events will occur once operations resume. If any organizations go past their accreditation due date, accreditation will be extended without disruption to their accreditation status. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services also has given assurances that Medicare payment status will not be affected.

The Joint Commission understands this is a very difficult time for all health care providers, and it can help provide expert advice and guidance. Organizations can reach out to their account executives for assistance.

Performance measurement

Pioneers in Quality webinar still on for March 26; online replay to be available same day

The March 26 Pioneers in Quality™ webinar regarding Joint Commission Accreditation and Certification Chart-Abstracted Measure Manual Updates effective July 1, 2020 is still scheduled to proceed. However, The Joint Commission understands the demands that are being placed on hospitals at this time, and the ability to participate during the live session might be limited.

While the live session will continue at this time — with presenters all joining remotely — the session will be recorded and a replay and a PDF of the slides will be available within two hours of the end of the broadcast using the same link that was used to join the live session. The session will not offer Continuing Education credit.

The March 26 webinar will address changes to the Specifications Manual for Joint Commission National Quality Measures, including Measure Information Forms, Data Elements, algorithms and other additional measure updates. Time will be allotted for questions and answers.

Please note: A future set of webinars will address content and questions regarding transition to and usage of Direct Data Submission Platform to submit electronic clinical quality measures (eCQMs), as well as chart-abstracted data. By registering for this March 26 webinar will ensure you receive the list serv when registration opens for the future webinars.

Register for the March 26 webinar.
Deadline extended to June 1 for eCQM Proven Practices program applications

The submission deadline for the 2020 Pioneers in Quality™: Proven Practices Collection program has been extended from April 1 to June 1 in consideration of current resource constraints during this difficult time. Moving forward, if needed, the submission deadline will be reassessed.

The Proven Practices Collection recognize hospitals and health systems that have successfully leveraged electronic clinical quality measures (eCQMs) and health information technology to advance quality improvement.

Submit an application.

Learn more about Joint Commission Resources’ offerings online or call 877-223-6866.