

# Joint Commission Online

May 12, 2021

## Accreditation and Certification

### Top 5 most challenging requirements for 2020



The Joint Commission collects data on organizations' compliance with standards, National Patient Safety Goals (NPSGs), and Accreditation and Certification Participation Requirements to identify trends and focus education on challenging requirements.

The table below identifies the Top 5 Joint Commission requirements identified most frequently as "not compliant" during surveys

and reviews from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2020. Fewer surveys were conducted in 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic. However, Joint Commission surveyors were able to identify Requirements for Improvement (RFIs) in key areas for improvement.

For more information, see the May issue of *Perspectives* or the [Standards Frequently Asked Questions](#). (Contact: Standards Interpretation Group, 630-792-5900 or [online question form](#))

#### In this issue

- Top 5 most challenging requirements for 2020
- Learn more about Machine Learning for Survey Consistency in new Take 5 episode
- Support nurses during 2021 National Nurses Week celebration
- McKee joins 'Behind the Knife' podcast to talk about racism, inequities in health care
- Up in the blogosphere with The Joint Commission

Rank	Standard	Element of performance
<b>Ambulatory Health Care</b>		
1	IC.02.02.01: The organization reduces the risk of infections associated with medical equipment, devices, and supplies.	EP 2
2	IC.02.01.01: The organization implements infection prevention and control activities.	EP 2
3	MM.01.01.03: The organization safely manages high-alert and hazardous medications.	EP 2
4	EC.02.05.01: The organization manages risks associated with its utility systems.	EP 7
5	MM.01.02.01: The organization addresses the safe use of look-alike/sound-alike medication.	EP2
<b>Behavioral Health Care and Human Services</b>		
1	NPSG.15.01.01: Reduce the risk for suicide.	EP 2
2	NPSG.15.01.01: Reduce the risk for suicide.	EP 1
3	HRM.01.06.01: Staff are competent to perform their job duties and responsibilities.	EP 3
4	HRM.01.02.01: The organization verifies and evaluates staff credentials.	EP 1
5	NPSG.15.01.01: Reduce the risk for suicide.	EP 5
<b>Critical Access Hospitals</b>		
1	IC.02.02.01: The critical access hospital reduces the risk of infections associated with medical equipment, devices, and supplies.	EP 2
2	EC.02.05.01: The critical access hospital manages risks associated with its utility systems.	EP 15
3	IC.02.01.01: The critical access hospital implements its infection prevention and control plan.	EP 1
4	PC.02.01.11: Resuscitation services are available throughout the critical access hospital.	EP 2
5	EC.02.02.01: The critical access hospital manages risks related to hazardous materials and waste.	EP 5
<b>Home Care</b>		
1	IC.02.01.01: The organization implements the infection prevention and control activities it has planned.	EP 2
2	RC.02.01.01: The patient record contains information that reflects the patient's care, treatment, or services.	EP 2

3	LD.01.03.01: Governance is ultimately accountable for the safety and quality of care, treatment, or services.	EP 12
4	NPSG.15.02.01: Identify risks associated with home oxygen therapy such as home fires.	EP 1
5	PC.01.03.01: The organization plans the patient's care.	EP 18
<b>Hospitals</b>		
1	NPSG.15.01.01: Reduce the risk for suicide.	EP 1
2	IC.02.02.01: The hospital reduces the risk of infections associated with medical equipment, devices, and supplies.	EP 2
3	IC.02.01.01: The hospital implements its infection prevention and control plan.	EP 1
4	MM.06.01.01: The hospital safely administers medications.	EP 3
5	EC.02.05.01: The hospital manages risks associated with its utility systems.	EP 15
<b>Laboratory and Point-of-Care Testing</b>		
1	QSA.02.08.01: The laboratory performs correlations to evaluate the results of the same test performed with different methodologies or instruments or at different locations.	EP 2
2	QSA.05.18.01: The organization has policies and procedures to monitor and evaluate the patient and report suspected transfusion-related adverse events.	EP 7
3	HR.01.06.01: Staff are competent to perform their responsibilities.	EP 20
4	HR.01.06.01: Staff are competent to perform their responsibilities.	EP 18
5	QSA.02.11.01: The laboratory conducts surveillance of patient results and related records as part of its quality control program.	EP 7
<b>Nursing Care Centers</b>		
1	HR.02.01.04: The organization permits licensed independent practitioners to provide care, treatment, and services.	EP 5
2	IC.02.01.01: The organization implements its infection prevention and control plan.	EP 1
3	EC.02.02.01: The organization manages risks related to hazardous materials and waste.	EP 5
4	HR.02.01.04: The organization permits licensed independent practitioners to provide care, treatment, and services.	EP 1
5	MM.03.01.01: The organization safely stores medications.	EP 7
5	PC.01.03.01: The organization plans the patient's or resident's care.	EP 1
5	WT.04.01.01: The organization performs quality control checks for waived testing on each procedure.	EP 4
<b>Office-Based Surgery</b>		
1	IC.02.02.01: The practice reduces the risk of infections associated with medical equipment, devices, and supplies.	EP 2
2	IC.02.01.01: The practice implements infection prevention and control plan.	EP 2
3	HR.02.01.03: The practice grants initial, renewed, or revised clinical privileges to individuals who are permitted by law and the organization to practice independently.	EP 1
3	MM.01.01.03: The practice safely manages high-alert and hazardous medications.	EP 1
3	MM.01.01.03: The practice safely manages high-alert and hazardous medications.	EP 2
3	MM.01.02.01: The practice addresses the safe use of look-alike/sound-alike medications.	EP 1
3	MM.03.01.01: The practice safely stores medications.	EP 2

### Learn more about Machine Learning for Survey Consistency in new Take 5 episode

Earlier this year, The Joint Commission launched its Machine Learning for Survey Consistency technology across all accreditation and certification programs. This new technology, part of the enterprise's larger Business Digital Transformation Strategy, will help improve the consistency and accuracy of survey and review findings, while also creating time-saving efficiencies for field staff as they score findings.

In a new episode of Take 5 with The Joint Commission, Kin Lee, Chief Information and Enterprise Security Officer, and Emily J. Wells, Project Director, Surveyor Management and Development in Accreditation and Certification Operations, talk about the new technology and how it will impact surveys.

[Listen](#) to the podcast. [11:16]

## Quality and safety

### Support nurses during 2021 National Nurses Week celebration

It is National Nurses Week, and The Joint Commission is joining the health care community in recognizing the amazing work that nurses are accomplishing around the world.

Created in 1993 by the American Nurses Association (ANA), National Nurses Week is designed to celebrate and elevate the nursing profession. The celebration always ends on May 12 — Florence Nightingale’s birthday.

Follow The Joint Commission’s coverage of National Nurses Week and learn about the amazing contributions nurses are making in these difficult times, including:

- A [blog](#) from Joint Commission Associate Nurse Executive Lisa DiBlasi-Moorehead, EdD, MSN, RN, CENP, and Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nursing Executive Mark G. Pelletier, RN, MS, on how nurses are humans who also need support from the community and workplace.
- Participate in the conversation by visiting The Joint Commission’s [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) pages.



[Learn more](#) about the ANA’s Year of the Nurse campaign.

### McKee joins ‘Behind the Knife’ podcast to talk about racism, inequities in health care

Ana Pujols McKee, MD, Executive Vice President, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, The Joint Commission, spoke with the “Behind the Knife” podcast recently about The Joint Commission’s efforts to solve health care disparities and improve provider diversity.

In an episode titled, “The Joint Commission Tackles Healthcare Disparities in the COVID Era,” Dr. McKee discussed structural racism that exists in health care and how the COVID-19 pandemic brought many of these issues to light. Dr. McKee also touched on the [Bernard J. Tyson National Award for Excellence in the Pursuit of Healthcare Equity](#).

[Listen](#) to the podcast.

## Resources

### Up in the blogosphere with The Joint Commission

- **Dateline @ TJC** — [Patient Safety Complaints Received During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#): As the dust began to settle in the latter part of 2020, The Joint Commission performed an in-depth analysis of the patient safety event reports it received. It is the first time The Joint Commission has ever aggregated its data in this way, and we hope our accredited organizations use this information to develop their own specific lessons learned from the pandemic, writes John Michael Delacruz, Patient Safety Specialist, and Madhavi Dave, Patient Safety Specialist.
- **Quality in Nursing Center Care** — [Standards Manual for Assisted Living Accreditation Program Available Electronically](#): On July 1, The Joint Commission will begin accepting applications for a new Assisted Living Communities (ALC) Accreditation program. We’ll be sharing more information about specific standards for ALCs in the coming weeks, but I wanted to make you aware of a new opportunity to review them by requesting a free, 90-day trial of E-dition®, writes Debbie Holzer, Project Director, Clinical, Department of Standards and Survey Methods.

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

