Additional Revisions Announced for “Nursing” and “Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services” Chapters

At the conclusion of The Joint Commission’s EP Review Project for the “Nursing” (NR) and “Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services” (PC) chapters (see July 2018 Perspectives, pages 10 and 11), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requested additional changes to some elements of performance (EPs) to more closely align with language in the Medicare Conditions of Participation (CoPs). Effective January 1, 2019, these EP revisions are applicable to critical access hospitals and deemed-status hospitals.

The changes are identified below in underlined text and will be posted on the Prepublication Standards page of The Joint Commission website. The revisions will also be reflected in the fall 2018 E-dition® update and the 2019 hard copy publications of the Comprehensive Accreditation Manuals for hospitals and critical access hospitals.

Questions may be directed to Laura Smith, MA, project director, Department of Standards and Survey Methods, The Joint Commission.

Official Publication of Joint Commission Requirements
Revisions for “Nursing” and “Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services” Chapters

APPLICABLE TO CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS

Effective January 1, 2019

Nursing (NR)

Standard NR.02.03.01
The nurse executive directs the implementation of nursing policies and procedures, nursing standards, and a nurse staffing plan(s).

Element of Performance for NR.02.03.01
7. For rehabilitation and psychiatric distinct part units in critical access hospitals: A registered nurse provides or supervises the nursing services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Note: A registered nurse is immediately available for the provision of bedside care of any patient.

Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC)

Standard PC.01.01.01
The critical access hospital accepts the patient for care, treatment, and services based on its ability to meet the patient’s needs.

Element of Performance for PC.01.01.01
2. The critical access hospital follows a written process for accepting a patient that addresses the following:
   - Criteria to determine the patient’s eligibility for care, treatment, and services
   - Procedures for accepting referrals

Note: For rehabilitation distinct part units in critical access hospitals: A rehabilitation physician reviews and approves the patient’s preadmission screening prior to the patient’s admission to the unit.

Standard PC.01.02.03
The critical access hospital assesses and reassesses the patient and his or her condition according to defined time frames.

3. Each patient is reassessed as necessary based on his or her plan for care or changes in his or her condition.

Note 1: Reassessments may also be based on the patient’s diagnosis; desire for care, treatment, and services; response to previous care, treatment, and services; discharge planning needs; and/or his or her setting requirements.
Note 2: For rehabilitation distinct part units in critical access hospitals: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services requires that a physician with specialized training and experience in inpatient rehabilitation conducts at least three face-to-face patient visits per week.

Standard PC.03.01.01
The critical access hospital plans operative or other high-risk procedures, including those that require the administration of moderate or deep sedation or anesthesia.

Note: Equipment identified in the elements of performance is available to the operating room suites.

Element of Performance for PC.03.01.01
8. For rehabilitation and psychiatric distinct part units in critical access hospitals: At a minimum, operating room suites have the following equipment:
   - Call-in system
   - Cardiac monitor
   - Resuscitator
   - Defibrillator
   - Aspirator
   - Tracheotomy set

APPPLICABLE TO DEEMED-STATUS HOSPITALS

Nursing (NR)

Standard NR.02.03.01
The nurse executive directs the implementation of nursing policies and procedures, nursing standards, and a nurse staffing plan(s).

Element of Performance for NR.02.03.01
7. A registered nurse provides or supervises the nursing services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Note: For hospitals that use Joint Commission accreditation for deemed status purposes:
A registered nurse is immediately available for the provision of bedside care of any patient.

 Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC)

Standard PC.03.01.01
The hospital plans operative or other high-risk procedures, including those that require the administration of moderate or deep sedation or anesthesia.

Note: Equipment identified in the elements of performance is available to the operating room suites.

Element of Performance for PC.03.01.01
8. For hospitals that use Joint Commission accreditation for deemed status purposes: At a minimum, operating room suites have the following equipment:
   - Call-in system
   - Cardiac monitor
   - Resuscitator
   - Defibrillator
   - Aspirator
   - Tracheotomy set