The nation’s preeminent hospital accredditor

Hospital accreditation from The Joint Commission is not just a survey, it’s a continuous process designed to help hospitals better serve their patients and communities. The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval™, the internationally-recognized symbol of health care quality, has been awarded to more than 4,000 hospitals in the United States, making it the accredditor of the majority of United States’ hospitals. Many organizations that are accredited by The Joint Commission land on the national “best of” lists yearly and the majority of Baldrige winners were accredited by The Joint Commission at the time they won their award.

Our accreditation process drives quality care and patient safety improvements through nationally recognized evidence-based standards which address critical patient safety and quality issues, National Patient Safety Goals, and performance measures which provide a foundation for quality. The unique tracer methodology proactively identifies both risks and high-performing areas. Our experienced surveyors share best practices in a collaborative format for not only staff, but leadership as well. The hospital accreditation process goes full circle from the on-site survey to intracycle monitoring to assure that organizations are maintaining compliance in between surveys and extends to providing tools and resources to help organizations every day.

Each organization’s private Joint Commission Connect™ extranet site provides easy access to important information regarding accreditation decisions, along with important information and resources that are valuable to organizations before, during and after survey.

Every kind of hospital and across the continuum

We evaluate hospitals from all settings – community, academic, government-owned, pediatric, long term acute care hospitals, rehab, psychiatric, and specialty hospitals. We have a separate accreditation process for critical access hospitals. We are the only accrediting organization to represent the entire continuum of care, with accreditation offered for home care, nursing care, ambulatory settings, laboratories, and behavioral health. The Joint Commission offers accreditation and certification services for the full range of services covered by provider networks. Consumers are able to view an organization’s accomplishments for both accreditation and certification on Quality Check®. The Joint Commission offers accreditation and certification services for the full range of services covered by provider networks. Consumers are able to view a hospital’s accomplishments in both accreditation and certification on Quality Check®.

Integrated Care Certification is available to hospitals that are clinically integrating care among health care settings in a system. The certification focuses on integrating information-sharing, transitions of care, hand-off communications, leadership and other key activities as a patient moves between health care settings. The overarching goal is to improve patient outcomes by keeping providers and patients engaged across care settings and over time. www.jointcommission.org/integratedcare

“We are proud of accreditation of our hospitals by The Joint Commission, via its rigorous inspection process, because it signals the commitment we deliver on each and every day to provide safe, high quality and culturally responsive care to anyone who comes through our doors. But accreditation means something more – our dedication to never stop striving to improve our care, our procedures, and our patient experience.” Ram Raju, President & CEO, NYC Health and Hospitals
The team behind the Gold Seal

Every organization that is accredited by The Joint Commission has a dedicated account executive who helps each customer have a positive accreditation experience. Our expert and experienced surveyors are all employees of The Joint Commission and have conducted hundreds of surveys, averaging approximately 20 per year, while simultaneously maintaining their clinical and professional experience in the field. Armed with relevant knowledge of the health care settings they survey, our surveyors perform our unique tracer methodology to determine, from the patient’s viewpoint, the quality and safety of the care being provided.

Support you’d expect from a performance improvement organization

Because we’re not just an accreditor, but also a performance improvement organization, we don’t expect that the minute our survey team leaves a facility that the performance improvement cycle ends. There are many complimentary resources available to help your organization before, during and after the survey process. Just some of them include portals on key topics such as the environment of care, hand hygiene, emergency management and transitions of care. Standards BoosterPaks™ are searchable documents that provide detailed information about a particular standard or National Patient Safety Goal area, including evidence, rationale, references and frequently asked questions. Topics include environment of care, use of restraints, suicide risks and more. The Leading Practice Library™ is a collection of real-life solutions that have been successfully implemented by organizations.

Solutions address such areas as competency assessment documentation, instrument methodology, and policies for communicating critical test results.

The Targeted Solutions Tool (TST) from the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare provides customized solutions to help solve quality and safety problems, such as hand hygiene, hand-off communications, and preventing falls. The TST’s capabilities can identify customized solutions to the specific circumstances of an individual organization. As a leader in high reliability resources, the Center also provides tools such as Oro™ 2.0, an online organizational assessment with resources designed to guide hospital leadership throughout the high reliability journey.

Adding certifications to your hospital’s achievements

Certifications recognize the areas in which your organization can achieve additional distinctions for advanced accomplishments. Disease-Specific Care Certifications are designed to evaluate specific clinical programs and are provided for virtually any chronic disease or condition such as COPD, wound care, joint replacement and many others. Learn what conditions can be certified at www.jointcommission.org/DSC. Patient Blood Management Certification is available and is based on the AABB Standards for a Patient Blood Management Program. This certification can help realize the maximum benefits of establishing a comprehensive blood management program. www.jointcommission.org/patientbloodmanagement. There are many other certifications that may be a great fit for your hospital such as Medication Compounding Certification, Primary Care Medical Home Certification and others. Visit our website at https://www.jointcommission.org/certification/certification_main.aspx to learn more.
How can we help you?
Contact us at 630.792.5291 for more information.