



New “Medication Compounding” Chapter for Home Care Manual

Effective January 1, 2018, The Joint Commission will implement a new

“Medication Compounding” (MC) standards chapter in the *Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Home Care*. These requirements will apply to all compounding pharmacies seeking initial accreditation or triennial reaccreditation. These standards were adapted from The Joint Commission’s Medication Compounding Certification requirements and align with current United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP®) requirements for sterile and nonsterile preparations.

These new standards will augment current Home Care–Pharmacy accreditation requirements and meet the needs of Joint Commission–accredited customers for a more focused and specialized evaluation of pharmacy compounding practices. The chapter is divided into five sections:

1. General Responsibilities
2. Education, Training, and Evaluation
3. Compounding Sterile Preparations
4. Compounding Sterile and Nonsterile Preparations
5. Compounding Nonsterile Preparations

Because it is known that microbial contamination of compounded sterile preparations occurs through direct contact or exposure to moisture or particles in the air generated by personnel, objects, or other mechanisms, the standards focus on the following areas:

- **People**—Training, competency, proper use of personal protective equipment, aseptic technique
- **Product**—Sterility of base products, beyond-use dates, labeling
- **Environment**—Airflow, buffer areas, guidelines for cleaning and documentation, storage

The “Medication Compounding” chapter standards will be posted by the end of June on The Joint Commission website at https://www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/prepublication_standards.aspx. In addition, the chapter will be included in the fall 2017 E-dition® release for the *Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Home Care* (as well as the hard copy publications for 2018).

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