Accreditation and certification

*R3 Report details 2 new standards designed to improve perinatal safety*

Two new standards that were designed to improve the quality and safety of perinatal care in Joint Commission-accredited hospitals will take effect July 1, 2020. These new standards require organizations to look at their processes and procedures surrounding the care of women experiencing hemorrhage and severe hypertension/preeclampsia.

The U.S. ranks 65th among industrialized nations in terms of maternal death — and with worsening maternal morbidity and mortality, The Joint Commission evaluated expert literature to determine what areas held the most potential impact. This revealed that prevention, early recognition, and timely treatment for maternal hemorrhage and severe hypertension/preeclampsia had the highest impact in states working on decreasing maternal complications.

This approach — which was supported by a Technical Advisory Panel assembled by The Joint Commission — resulted in the development of 13 new elements of performance (EPs) applicable within the Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC) chapter at PC.06.01.01 and PC.06.01.03.

Read *an R3 Report* that was published to help organizations better understand the rationale behind the new standards. View the prepublication standards.

Quality and safety

**Safety planning is more than filling out a form: Attend Sept. 9 webinar**

National Patient Safety Goal (NPSG) 15.01.01, element of performance (EP) 6 — which requires organizations to follow their policies and procedures when providing counseling and planning follow-up care at discharge for individuals who have been identified as being at risk for suicide — went into effect July 1.

To assist health care organizations better understand safety planning as a clinical intervention, The Joint Commission is hosting an hourlong webinar Monday, Sept. 9, at 9 a.m. PT/10 a.m. MT/11 a.m. CT/noon ET.

The webinar — “Suicide Prevention Webinar: Implementing the Safety Planning Intervention in Your Organization – Guidance on NPSG 15.01.01 (EP 6) effective July 1, 2019” — will feature suicide prevention experts:

- Gregory K. Brown, PhD, University of Pennsylvania’s Perelman School of Medicine
- Barbara Stanley, PhD, Columbia University Medical Center
- Christine Moutier, MD, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

Stanley and Brown developed an evidence-based resource, the Safety Planning Intervention, that is recognized as a best practice by the Suicide Prevention Resource Center.

The webinar will:

- Describe the rationale for safety planning.
- Review the NPSG related to suicide prevention.
• Explain the Safety Planning Intervention.
• Provide ways to overcome barriers to implementation.
• Share access to newly developed illustration videos on Safety Planning Intervention.

The webinar is best suited for clinical staff and organizational leadership such as:
• Nurses
• Physicians
• Therapists
• Social workers
• Primary accreditation contacts
• Other organizational leadership

For those unable to attend, a webinar recording with presentation slides will be posted on The Joint Commission’s website a few weeks later. Register.

Performance measurement

New mandatory Comprehensive Cardiac Center Certification performance measures
Effective Jan. 1, 2020, data collection on five new inpatient performance measures for the Comprehensive Cardiac Center (CCC) Certification program will be mandatory for currently certified programs and organizations seeking initial certification. The measures — which were posted for public comment and underwent pilot testing — were selected by a Joint Commission Technical Advisory Panel in partnership with the American Heart Association.

The mandatory performance measures are:
• CCCIP-01: High-intensity Statin Prescribed at Discharge
• CCCIP-02: Aldosterone Antagonist Prescribed at Discharge
• ACHF-01: Beta-Blocker Therapy (i.e., Bisoprolol, Carvedilol, or Sustained-Release Metoprolol Succinate) Prescribed for LVSD at Discharge
• ACHF-02: Post-Discharge Appointment for Heart Failure Patients
• ACHF-06: Post-Discharge Evaluation for Heart Failure Patients

Additionally, organizations are being encouraged to begin collecting data on an optional second set of measures.

The optional inpatient performance measures are:
• CCCIP-03: Cardiac Rehabilitation Referral from an Inpatient Setting
• CCCIP-04: Cardiac Rehabilitation Referral for Heart Failure Patients with Reduced Ejection Fraction from an Inpatient Setting
• CCCIP-05: Cardiac Rehabilitation Enrollment-Inpatient

The optional outpatient performance measures are:
• CCCOP-01: Cardiac Rehabilitation Referral from an Outpatient Setting
• CCCOP-02: Cardiac Rehabilitation Referral for Heart Failure Patients with Reduced Ejection Fraction from an Outpatient Setting
• CCCOP-03: Cardiac Rehabilitation Enrollment-Outpatient
• ACHFOP-03: Hospital Outpatient Aldosterone Receptor Antagonists Prescribed for LVSD
• ACHFOP-06: Hospital Outpatient Discussion of Advance Directives/Advance Care Planning

Measure specifications are detailed in the Comprehensive Cardiac Certification Performance Measurement Implementation Guide. Any questions regarding the performance measures should be submitted to the Performance Measurement Network Q&A Forum.
Resources

Register now for free laboratory education event on Nov. 12
Now’s the time to reserve your spot at a special free Joint Commission educational event focusing on laboratories on Nov. 12.

The conference — titled, “2020 Vision for the Laboratory” — will focus on:

• Ways to help improve processes.
• Information about frequent hurdles and solutions.
• An overall look at the future of the laboratory industry.

The day will include presentations by:

• Robert Michel, editor-in-chief of DARK Daily and The Dark Report, as the keynote speaker
• Paul Taylor-Smith, MD, a pathologist surveyor for The Joint Commission
• Joyce Ammer, a Joint Commission surveyor
• Cherie Ulaskas, Standards Interpretation Group
• Ron Quicho, Department of Standards and Survey Methods
• Denise Gaff, a customer of The Joint Commission

Participants will have an opportunity to earn continuing education credits, and there will be a reception held the night before on Nov. 11.

The educational event will be held at the Westin O’Hare, 6100 N. River Road in Rosemont, Illinois. Register.

Up in the blogosphere with The Joint Commission

• Leading Hospital Improvement — Proven Practices Webinar Series Highlights eCQMs Best Practices: Five hospitals/health care systems have been recognized as 2019 Pioneers in Quality™ Expert Contributors, and each will present on a topic related to eCQMs in August and September. The Joint Commission initiated its Pioneers in Quality™ 2019 Proven Practices webinar series to help accredited organizations improve the use of electronic clinical quality measures at their facilities, writes Lisa Anderson, MSN, RN-BC, project director, Department of Quality Measurement.

• Leading Hospital Improvement — CMS Revises Validation Survey Process: Historically, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has used a separate state agency survey conducted within 60 days of an accrediting organization (AO) survey to evaluate whether the AO has performed a thorough evaluation of a Medicare-certified provider or supplier. Over the past year, The Joint Commission has collaborated with CMS to develop a redesigned validation survey process, writes Mark Pelletier, RN, MS, chief operating officer and chief nursing officer.

• Quality in Nursing Center Care — Teach Your Patients to Speak Up™ To Prevent Falls: According to the National Council on Aging, falls are the leading cause of injuries for Americans 65 and older. The Joint Commission’s latest Speak Up™ campaign was designed to empower patients and their advocates to become active in their care. To that end, Speak Up™ To Prevent Falls outlines four categories where individuals can manage their own fall prevention, writes Gina Zimmermann, MS, executive director, Nursing Care Center Accreditation.

• Ambulatory Buzz — Meet an Ambulatory Care Account Executive: As lead account executive on the ambulatory health care team at The Joint Commission, Brittnay Hull is one of the folks you can reach out to when you have questions about your ambulatory care accreditation application, status or process.

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