Joint Commission to offer new Comprehensive Cardiac Center Certification starting Jan. 1

Starting Jan. 1, 2017, applications will be accepted for a new, advanced Comprehensive Cardiac Center Certification.

This voluntary program is for Joint Commission-accredited hospitals seeking an independent evaluation and recognition of their comprehensive cardiac center services. This program was designed for hospitals with robust cardiac care facilities, with the aim of helping organizations establish the structures, processes and culture necessary to achieve sustained levels of effective clinical performance and patient outcomes across cardiac specialties and the continuum of care.

This program will help organizations deliver comprehensive cardiac care through:

- Compliance with consensus-based standards
- Effective integration of evidence-based clinical practice guidelines
- An organized approach to performance measurement and improvement
- Achievement and/or maintenance of required Advanced Disease-Specific Care certification requirements

The Joint Commission’s Comprehensive Cardiac Center Certification program was developed with input from a technical advisory panel comprised of clinicians with specific expertise in comprehensive cardiovascular care.

At a minimum, the organization’s scope of care, treatment, and services need to include management of the following domains:

- Ischemic heart disease, through medical and interventional/surgical care, including acute coronary syndrome treatments, percutaneous coronary interventions, and coronary bypass graft surgery
- Cardiac valve disease, including valve replacement/repair procedures
- Arrhythmias, including electrophysiology services and outpatient device clinic
- Advanced heart failure, including outpatient services
- Cardiac arrest, including prevention of in-hospital arrests, resuscitation, and targeted temperature management for cardiac arrest
- Cardiac rehabilitation of patients, as indicated, either on-site or by referral
- Cardiovascular risk factor identification and cardiac disease prevention
Patient safety

Joint Commission seeks accredited nursing care centers for CDC-awarded infection control study

Joint Commission-accredited nursing care centers are invited to participate in an infection control study as part of a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) contract awarded to The Joint Commission.

In total, CDC awarded $14 million to 34 organizations in the United States as part of its Antibiotic Resistance Solutions Initiative. The Joint Commission's Department of Health Services Research is engaging in a study — Implementing standardized measurement of infections in nursing homes: challenges and facilitators — that aims to:

- Train and initiate National Healthcare Safety Network laboratory-identified event module data collection in a new cohort of nursing homes
- Measure organizational and individual characteristics and perceptions known to affect the ability to successfully implement quality improvement initiatives
- Identify challenges and facilitators to implementation and analyze these factors relative to organizational characteristics

The Joint Commission received a 12-month contract from CDC to identify challenges and facilitators to implementing standardized measurement of *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*) and other multidrug-resistant organisms in accredited nursing care centers. Nursing care centers that participate in the study will be helping to save lives, influence national policy, and get ahead of the infection control curve, among other benefits.

Learn more. (Contact: Beth Ann Longo, blongo@jointcommission.org)

New Quick Safety details advancing patient-provider communication and activating patients

The Joint Commission has released a new Quick Safety newsletter on improving patient-provider communication and activating patients.

Communication has been established as a critical focus for patient safety, especially skilled patient-provider communication — which is essential to creating a safe health care environment. Most improvement efforts to date have centered on provider-provider communication during transitions of care, and on patients with unique health care communication needs.

Intertwined with patient safety, however, are patient-provider communication and patient activation — which is shown to enhance patient-provider communication. Activated patients are less likely to experience harm and unnecessary hospital readmissions. Less activated patients suffer poorer health outcomes and are less likely to follow their provider’s advice.

Read more in the latest issue of Quick Safety.

People

The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare appoints new engagement director

The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare appointed David Grazman, PhD, as its new engagement director. In this leadership position, Dr. Grazman will oversee business development of the Center’s offerings, including Robust Process Improvement® (RPI®) training for health care organizations and providers, focused on creating sustainable solutions to some of health care’s most critical quality and safety problems.
Dr. Grazman brings 20 years of health care experience in consulting, teaching, general management, marketing and sales, business development, strategic planning, and new product planning to the Center. His expertise will advance the Center’s initiatives to help the nation’s leading hospitals and health systems build and strengthen their systems and structures to transform into high reliability organizations, by providing health care that is consistently excellent and safe.

“David, a longtime champion of the Center’s high reliability mission, will be instrumental in introducing new audiences to all of the resources and ways by which the Center works with health care organizations across the country to improve patient safety and quality of care,” said Anne Marie Benedicto, MPP, MPH, vice president of the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare. “The Center looks forward to working with David to help health care organizations on their journey to high reliability.”

Dr. Grazman was previously global product manager of Safe Health Design Consulting for Joint Commission Resources, Inc. and Joint Commission International, affiliates of The Joint Commission. As part of a Joint Commission enterprise-wide customer engagement effort, he helped create prototypes of the model the Center offers to health care organizations looking to establish internal RPI programs. Dr. Grazman received his doctorate in business administration from the University of Minnesota; a master’s degree in public policy from Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government; and a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Missouri.

Resources

Dateline @ TJC blog hones in on Core Measure Solution Exchange®
Dateline @ TJC — a new blog from The Joint Commission that shares experiences, case studies and news that add insight and value to the accreditation and certification journey — has a new entry, “Solutions are for Sharing,” detailing the Core Measure Solution Exchange®.

The Exchange is accessible only to employees of Joint Commission-accredited organizations through The Joint Commission Connect™ extranet site. It’s an interactive forum for organizations to exchange quality improvement practices electronically, on a portal that’s separate from the accreditation process and not accessible to the public.

Joint Commission Resources

Two JCR books receive five-star ratings from Doody’s
Two resources from Joint Commission Resources (JCR) have earned five-star ratings from Doody’s Book Review Service.

“The Joint Commission Big Book of Checklists,” was described as “an exciting resource,” by reviewer Joann E. Badget, RN, MSN, James A. Haley Veterans Hospital. In Badget’s review, she wrote that “the book is organized and easy to navigate, and the checklists are defined and described in categories: assessment, decision, evaluation, procedure, and to-do.”

She wrote, “Hospitals seeking accreditation from The Joint Commission will find this an invaluable resource,” and “the best part is that it comes with a jump drive — every template and checklist in the book is accompanied by a customizable electronic template.”
“Emergency Management in Health Care: An All-Hazards Approach, 3rd Edition” also received a five-star rating from reviewer Janet Sprehe, DNP, MSN, BSN, James A. Haley Veterans Hospital.

“New emergency managers along with others involved in continuity of operations and emergency operations planning will find this more detailed third edition easier to navigate and follow than similar books in the field,” Sprehe wrote.

**Don’t miss these new publications from Joint Commission Resources**

The end of 2016 is near, and with 2017 comes new standards and accreditation expectations. Get ahead of the curve by checking out new guides and manuals from Joint Commission Resources.

Some of these include:

- 2017 Accreditation Standards Books
- 2017 Environment of Care Essentials for Health Care
- 2017 Hospital Compliance Assessment Checklist

[See a detailed list of 2017 resources.](#)

Learn more about [Joint Commission Resources'] offerings online or call 877-223-6866.