In this issue:
Field review: Comment on proposed requirements for pediatric equipment and supplies
Fix for revised EM standards for ambulatory customers that are FQHCs, RHCs
TST for Hand Hygiene now available as mobile application
Center for Transforming Healthcare, Huron partner to further high reliability strategies
Up in the blogosphere with The Joint Commission

Accreditation and certification

Field review: Comment on proposed requirements for pediatric equipment and supplies
The Joint Commission is interested in organizations’ feedback regarding proposed requirements related to pediatric emergency equipment and supplies. The proposed elements of performance (EPs) are in the Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC) chapter and would apply to the following accreditation programs that provide pediatric services:

- Hospitals
- Critical access hospitals
- Ambulatory care

The survey will be available through March 27, 2018. Comment now.

Fix for revised EM standards for ambulatory customers that are FQHCs, RHCs
Some ambulatory care customers that are federally qualified health centers (FQHC) and rural health clinics (RHC) have had difficulty accessing 19 elements of performance (EPs) in the E-dition that contained the lead-in: “For ambulatory surgical centers that elect to use The Joint Commission deemed status option and for rural health clinics and federally qualified health centers.” These EPs were added for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Emergency Management Final Rule. To make them accessible, The Joint Commission has created specific versions of the EPs for deemed ambulatory surgical centers, and specific versions for FQHCs and RHCs. Only the lead-in has been revised — the actual requirement remains unchanged.

View the prepublication standards, which will remain online until the standards changes become effective on March 11.

Center for Transforming Healthcare

TST for Hand Hygiene now available as mobile application
Users of the Targeted Solutions Tool® (TST®) for Hand Hygiene can now record their hand hygiene observations on any mobile device or tablet. The TST® for Hand Hygiene mobile application can be downloaded from the Google Play or Apple app store.

This mobile application offers several advantages, such as:

- Eliminating the need for paper copies.
- Streamlining the data entry process to minimize the number of clicks and keystrokes.
- Recording observations as they are collected — reducing delays.

To use the mobile application, users will need a:

- TST® login and password
- Network connection
Learn more in a blog post by John Cullinan, director of application development and data analysis, The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare, about the new TST® for Hand Hygiene mobile application. Questions regarding the application can be directed to cth@jointcommission.org.

Center for Transforming Healthcare, Huron partner to further high reliability strategies
The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare is collaborating with global professional services firm Huron to create a series of workshops centered around high reliability strategies for hospitals and other health care organizations.

A high reliability organization maintains extraordinarily high levels of quality and safety over long periods of time with no adverse or harmful events, despite operating in hazardous and unsafe conditions. Both organizations have long been committed to high reliability and high reliability organizations (HROs) and developed proprietary know-how and methodologies that will be shared at the workshops. The first workshop will be held April 11 in Minneapolis.

“The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare is pleased to collaborate with Huron to improve patient safety and quality of care through high reliability,” said Mark R. Chassin, MD, FACP, MPP, MPH, president and chief executive officer of The Joint Commission. “Together, we will unite to help health care organizations deliver consistently excellent care across all services and settings — resulting in improved processes, financial savings, engaged team members, and, most importantly, zero harm for patients and caregivers.”

“Every health care organization has a mission to provide consumers the best possible care,” said Mark Hussey, executive vice president, chief operating officer and health care business leader for Huron. “This collaboration will help address the needs of health care organizations looking to consistently improve their levels of patient safety and the quality of care.”

Huron’s health care business, which includes Studer Group, will work with the Center to present the high reliability strategies to clients and advance the mission of helping hospitals and health care organizations on their journey to reach zero harm. Through these workshops, the Center, Huron and Studer Group will be at the forefront of national efforts by health care organizations to become HROs.

Learn more about the April event.

Resources

Up in the blogosphere with The Joint Commission
Leading Hospital Improvement — New Requirements Assess Pregnant Mothers’ Infectious Disease Status Upon Delivery Room Admission: Assessing pregnant women’s status for HIV, syphilis, hepatitis B, and group B strep (GBS) is about to get much more comprehensive — even if it doesn’t take place until the delivery room, writes Kathy Clark, MSN, RN, associate project director specialist, Standards and Survey Methods.

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