Learn more about SAFER Matrix™ during Feb. 7 webinar
The Joint Commission will host an hourlong webinar on the Survey Analysis for Evaluating Risk™ (SAFER™) Matrix on Tuesday, Feb. 7, starting at 9 a.m. PT/10 a.m. MT/11 a.m. CT/noon ET. The SAFER Matrix™ was implemented in January to prioritize resources, as well as to focus corrective action plans in areas that are in most need of compliance activities and interventions.

The objectives of the webinar are to provide:
- Additional information to help organizations understand the SAFER Matrix™
- A live demonstration of how the SAFER Matrix™ is scored in the field
- Specific data collected, as well as feedback from field surveyors and organizations
- Details surrounding the new Evidence of Standards Compliance (ESC) fields, and data that can be shared from the Business Intelligence (BI) tool

Space is limited for the webinar, however, it will be recorded. For those unable to participate, a replay with presentation slides will be available on The Joint Commission website following the program.

Register.

Performance measurement

Explore eCQM readiness at HIMSS17
The Joint Commission’s Michelle Dardis, MSN, MBA, RN-BC, and JohnMarc Alban, MS, RN, CPHIMS, will speak about electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM) readiness at the 2017 HIMSS Conference & Exhibition, which will be held Feb. 19-23 in Orlando, Florida, at the Orange County Convention Center.

Dardis is a project director of the Center for Performance Measurement at The Joint Commission. Alban is an associate director of quality measurement and informatics at The Joint Commission. They will present an education session titled, “eCQM Readiness and Challenges: An Essential Conversation,” from 1-2 p.m. ET Tuesday, Feb. 21.

The session format allows for a 20-minute lecture, followed by a 40-minute conversation with the audience. It aims to:
- Compare nationwide survey results to where organizations currently stand
- Identify appropriate resources for eCQM implementation
- Discuss common challenges and solutions
“We will speak about our experiences assessing eCQM readiness and challenges, and kick off discussion with leading questions,” Dardis said. “That includes questions such as, ’How do organizations derive value from eCQMs?’”

The target audience for this presentation are: clinical informaticists; physicians, chief medical officers and chief medical informatics officers; and senior information technology (IT) executives.

The HIMSS conference is attended by more than 40,000 clinical and IT health care professionals annually. The content will be relevant to Joint Commission stakeholders interested in learning more about the Pioneers in Quality™ program.

Learn more about the session.

**Patient safety**

Check out latest Quick Safety on protecting patients during utility system outages

A disruption to a utility system can affect a health care organization's ability to provide safe patient care and treatment. However, it is inevitable that a health care facility will experience a disruption to one or more of its utility systems at some time, so a process must be in place to manage and respond to the risks associated with utility systems, and to act accordingly to planned and unplanned events. This process is also called contingency planning.

The Joint Commission has released a Quick Safety report on setting up processes to protect patients during utility system outages, such as from a:

- Naturally occurring event (i.e. severe storm)
- Man-made event (i.e. act of terrorism, planned disruption)

Read the Quick Safety.

**Resources**

**Attention: Joint Commission reissues 2017 Accreditation Survey Activity Guide**

The Joint Commission has reissued the 2017 Accreditation Survey Activity Guide for Health Care Organizations, which includes several corrections and clarifications related to the document lists for:

- Hospital/Critical Access Hospital
- Life Safety and Environment of Care and Review Tool
- Nursing Care Centers

See the updated “What's New” webpage for details.

**Trending on jointcommission.org**

Blog: [Dateline @ TJC – A New Year, A 'New' Journal](#) — David W. Baker, MD, MPH, FACP, executive vice president in the Division of Health Care Quality Evaluation at The Joint Commission, writes about the recent move by The Joint Commission to publish the *Journal on Quality and Patient Safety* through Elsevier. Baker writes that the move was made in an effort to further grow the journal’s impact and contributions, and that as one of the leading worldwide health sciences publishers, Elsevier is well positioned to strengthen support for the journal’s authors, readers and subscribers through its cutting-edge publishing technologies.
Learn more about Joint Commission Resources’ offerings online or call 877-223-6866.