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Accreditation

PS, SSIS chapter now available for all accreditation programs
The Patient Safety Systems (PS) chapter for all Joint Commission accreditation programs is now available on The Joint Commission website. For the Behavioral Health Care Accreditation program, the chapter is titled Safety Systems for Individuals Served (SSIS). The chapter is also in each accreditation program's 2018 Comprehensive Accreditation Manual. The PS/SSIS chapter does not contain any new requirements; it describes how existing requirements can be applied to achieve improved safety. It is also intended to help all health care workers understand the relationship between Joint Commission accreditation and safety.

The PS chapter was first available to hospitals in the 2015 Comprehensive Accreditation Manual. Now, health care leaders at all Joint Commission-accredited organizations can follow the proactive approach outlined in the chapter to design or redesign a patient-centered system that aims to improve quality of care and patient safety.

The PS chapter is focused on three guiding principles:
- Aligning existing Joint Commission standards with daily work in order to engage patients and staff throughout the health care system, at all times, on reducing harm.
- Assisting health care organizations with advancing knowledge, skills, and competence of staff and patients by recommending methods that will improve quality and safety processes.
- Encouraging and recommending proactive quality and patient safety methods that will increase accountability, trust, and knowledge while reducing the impact of fear and blame.

The SSIS chapter focuses on the following two guiding principles:
- Assisting behavioral health care organizations with advancing knowledge, skills, and competence of staff and individuals served by recommending methods that will improve quality and safety processes.
- Encouraging and recommending proactive quality and safety methods for the individuals served that will increase accountability, trust, and knowledge while reducing the impact of fear and blame.

View the chapters.

Patient safety

New National Patient Safety Collaborative forms to increase impact of mutual patient safety work
On Jan. 16, 2018, The Joint Commission hosted the inaugural meeting of the National Patient Safety Collaborative. This voluntary collaborative brought together prominent, national patient safety organizations to collectively work on mutually identified safety concerns and to provide each organization the opportunity to increase the impact of its work.
Member organizations are: Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation; ECRI Institute; Institute for Safe Medication Practices; and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. Most of these organizations also have an international presence — expanding the reach of their patient safety missions.

Look for more information on the new collaborative and its planned initiatives throughout the coming year.

**Resources**

**Up in the blogosphere with The Joint Commission**

- **Quality in Nursing Care Center** — Thank You, C. diff and Multidrug Resistant Organism Study Participants! The Joint Commission recently completed a study, “Challenges and Facilitators to Standardized Measurement of Infections related to Clostridium-difficile and MDROs in Nursing Homes: A Prospective Multisite Study,” which was supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Gina Zimmermann, MS, executive director of Nursing Care Center Accreditation, recently penned a blog post thanking the participating organizations.

- **Ambulatory Buzz** — Best of AmBuzz for 2017. Last year was filled with important health care events and issues impacting the ambulatory care community, many of which were covered in Ambulatory Buzz. Michael Kulczycki, executive director of Ambulatory Health Care Accreditation, recently took a look back at some of the most important posts from last year.

**Joint Commission Resources**

**Get ready for your survey: JCR releases 2018 Hospital Compliance Assessment Checklist**

The 2018 Hospital Compliance Assessment Checklist, a self-assessment workbook designed to help organizations maintain continuous standards compliance and survey readiness, has been released by Joint Commission Resources. It includes every hospital standard and element of performance (EP), including those used for deemed status purposes and Primary Care Medical Home Certification.

This year’s Hospital Compliance Assessment Checklist also includes:

- High-level compliance prompts to promote discussion among staff and cultivate compliance strategies.
- Questions with which to assess each EP in the Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Hospitals.
- Tracer questions and worksheets to get your organization prepared for the survey.
- Available site license to allow your accreditation prep team to share learnings and data.

Learn more.

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