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Accreditation and certification

Get ready for 2018: Check out revisions for Medication Management standards
Revisions to Medication Management (MM) standards for all applicable Joint Commission-accredited programs will become effective Jan. 1, 2018. These revisions assure that the MM standards continue to reflect evidence-based practices and quality and safety issues that have emerged from the field in recent years.

Revised and new standards and elements of performance for all accreditation programs include:
- Implementing a policy to provide emergency backup for essential medication dispensing equipment identified by the organization.
- Adding “wasting” of medications to the required written policy addressing the control of medication between receipt by an individual health care provider and administration of the medication.
- Implementing a policy that describes the types of medication overrides that will be reviewed for appropriateness and the frequency of the reviews when automatic dispensing cabinets (ADCs) are used.
- Recording the date and time of any medication administered in the patient’s clinical record.

Additional revised and new standards apply to specific accreditation programs. View the prepublication standards.

Field review: Comment on potential requirements for maternal assessment and documentation
New requirements are being developed for Joint Commission-accredited hospitals and critical access hospitals that provide obstetric services, specifically labor and delivery. These proposed new requirements:
- Address the assessment of the current maternal status of HIV, Hepatitis B, Group Beta Strep (GBS), and syphilis.
- Are being developed to further promote patient safety and quality of care of the mother and newborn upon arrival and admission to labor and delivery.
- Align with current recommendations from scientific, professional, and governmental organizations.

Comments will be gathered through Aug. 16.

Coming in 2018: Florida nursing home Medicaid reimbursement shifting to PPS
Effective Oct. 1, 2018, the state of Florida is converting the structure of its Medicaid reimbursement for nursing homes and nursing facility services from a cost-based reimbursement model to a prospective payment system (PPS). This is being done to better balance the financial incentive for high-quality care with increased efficiency.
Under the new PPS system, nursing homes will have the opportunity to increase reimbursement by accumulating “points” in key quality categories. Under one of these categories — “quality credential” — The Joint Commission’s Nursing Care Center accreditation program is a recognized credential.

Currently, less than half of approximately 700 nursing homes in the state hold quality credentials recognized under the new plan, and The Joint Commission’s accreditation program offers the only option for nursing homes to apply for and potentially receive recognition to meet the established deadlines. The state of Tennessee implemented a similar quality metric program in 2011. Anticipating a federal shift to more block grants to states, other states may follow suit with such programs along with prospective payment systems in order to better project and manage costs.

Learn more. (Contact: ncc@jointcommission.org)

Resources

Joint Commission COO to present at What’s Right in Health Care conference in August
Mark Pelletier, RN, MS, chief operating officer, Accreditation and Certification Operations at The Joint Commission, will be presenting at the 15th annual What’s Right in Health Care® conference. It is being held from Aug. 1-3 at the Sheraton Grand, 301 E. North Water St. in Chicago, Illinois.

Pelletier will present in the senior executive track, “Using Evidence Based Leadership to Drive Cultural Transformation at The Joint Commission,” on Aug. 2, from 11:15 a.m. to noon.

What’s Right in Health Care brings together more than 1,000 administrative and clinical health care professionals, allowing participants to learn from high-performing organizations how to:

- Link key evidence based leadership behaviors to organizational achievements.
- Articulate tips and strategies for hardwiring new behaviors across a large employee base.
- Champion a positive message about the customer experience of Joint Commission accreditation and certification assessments to your organization.

Register.

Up in the blogosphere with The Joint Commission
- Dateline @ TJC — Re-Vamped ESC Form Launches July 2017: The Joint Commission has redesigned the Evidence of Standards Compliance (ESC) form that organizations may complete following an on-site accreditation or certification survey in order to help the organization better communicate the most critical aspects of their corrective actions to resolve Requirements for Improvement (RFIs), as well as ensure sustainability.
- @ Home with The Joint Commission — You’re Invited: Inaugural Certification Conference on August 8: What are you doing Aug. 8? Why not spend the day at the Hyatt Regency O’Hare in Rosemont, Illinois, for the inaugural certification conference? It will be the first of its kind in the industry.
- Quality, Reliability & Leadership — Beyond the Study: A Q&A with Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award Recipients: Part 3: This is the final post in a three-part series highlighting the quality improvement and patient safety achievements of this year’s John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award recipients, showcased in the July 2017 issue of The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety. This post examines the quality and patient safety efforts of Christiana Care Health System’s Christiana Care Care Link, recently renamed Carelink CareNow, recognized in the award’s local achievement category.
Learn solutions to challenging standards at Home Care Executive Briefing
The timing could not be better to attend the Home Care Executive Briefing. The one-day conference is scheduled for Aug. 24, and will be held at The Joint Commission Conference Center, One Renaissance Blvd., in Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois.

This year’s conference will:
• Discuss challenging Home Care standards.
• Provide updates on Project REFRESH and the Survey Analysis for Evaluating Risk™ (SAFER™) Matrix.
• Give information on topics like medication compounding, quality assessment and performance improvement (QAPI), and documentation strategies.

After the plenary sessions, attendees can attend sessions tailored to specific areas:
• Home health — Medicare-certified
• Home Health — Medicare-noncertified
• Hospice
• Durable medical equipment
• Pharmacy

Learn more or register for the conference.

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