

Joint Commission *Online*

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Patient safety

National Time Out Day increases awareness on supporting safety culture, safe practices in OR

[National Time Out Day](#), Wednesday, June 8, is an annual awareness campaign created by the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) and supported by The Joint Commission for its ability to increase awareness of safe practices that lead to optimal outcomes for patients undergoing surgery and other invasive procedures. The time out is a powerful tool that supports a culture of safety and surgical teams' ability to speak up for safe practices in the operating room.



The Joint Commission and AORN encourage health care organizations to commit to conducting a safe, effective time out for every patient, every time.

The Joint Commission has tools and resources available to effectively use time outs:

- [Universal Protocol resources page](#)
- [Universal Protocol poster](#)
- [Patient Safety Systems Chapter](#) of the *Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Hospitals*
- [Targeted Solutions Tool® for Safe Surgery](#)
- *Journal on Quality and Patient Safety* - [Sustainable, Effective Implementation of a Surgical Preprocedural Checklist: An "Attestation" Format for All Operating Team Members](#)
- Speak Up: [Preventing Surgical Errors](#)
- Speak Up Video: [Preparing for Surgery](#)
- [Infographic](#) on time outs

Also see the June issue of the [Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons](#), which features an article about National Time Out Day written by Carlos A. Pellegrini, MD, FACS, FRCSI(HON), FRCS(HON), FRCSED(HON), a member of The Joint Commission's Board of Directors.

Delayed implementation of removing ban on secure text orders until September 2016

The Joint Commission has determined that additional guidance is required to ensure a safe implementation involving the secure texting of orders for those organizations desiring to employ technology supporting this practice. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will collaborate with The Joint Commission on the development of additional guidance for text orders to ensure congruency with the Medicare Conditions of Participation. The Joint Commission and CMS will develop a comprehensive series of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) documents to assist health care organizations with the incorporation of text orders into their policies and procedures. This guidance information is designed to supplement the recommendations in the May 2016 *Perspectives* article permitting the use of secure text messaging platforms to transmit orders. As an update to the May 11, 2016 issue of *Joint Commission Online*, the goal for this additional guidance is a release date by late September 2016.

Resources

Joint Commission releases new Enterprise Content Library Index

The Joint Commission has released a new, useful tool — the [Enterprise Content Library Index](#) — which puts the resources of The Joint Commission (including Joint Commission Resources, Joint Commission International and the Center for Transforming Healthcare) into one convenient place.

The index includes:

- Web pages
- Articles
- Books
- Monographs
- Videos
- Webinars
- Podcasts
- FAQs
- Lessons

The index is topic-specific and includes all clinical settings. All content is noted as being “free and available to all,” “complimentary for customers” or “fee for service.” The index has been expanded to include thousands of resources. It will be updated quarterly by Joint Commission Resources, which will be communicated through *Joint Commission Online*. (Contact: customerrelations@jointcommission.org)

Hospitals: share eCQM successes through Core Measure Solution Exchange®

Hospitals can share their challenges and successes in implementing electronic clinical quality measures (eCQMs) and transmitting eCQM data via The Joint Commission’s Core Measure Solution Exchange®. Select eCQM implementation stories from the Exchange will be featured on The Joint Commission’s new [Pioneers in Quality portal](#).

An interactive, online, collaborative network, the Exchange provides more than 250 solutions to support improved performance on measures, including accountability measures. To submit your eCQM story, access the Exchange via the organization’s secure Joint Commission Connect extranet and complete the short online form. [View a quick reference](#) on to how to complete the form. (Contact: solutionexchange@jointcommission.org)



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

