Quality and safety

Leading Practice Library updated to be more user-friendly, customer-focused
An updated version of The Joint Commission’s Leading Practice Library (LPL) launched in mid-April. The LPL is a complimentary tool available to organizations currently accredited or certified by The Joint Commission and available via their secure extranet.

The new LPL allows users to download content in its original form as well as a PDF. Other benefits include:

- Easier search option from the front page, with more refined results (like by program, chapter, location and size of an organization)
- Ability to create one’s own curated library by “favoriting” or “unfavoriting” a practice
- A new submission process that is faster, simpler and less technical than the previous process
- New help guides with written and video formats

Documents in the LPL are real-life solutions that have been successfully implemented by health care organizations. Submitted solutions are reviewed by Joint Commission field representatives prior to publication.

The LPL allows users to browse specific topics of interest related to their own organization, and as many documents and topics as needed at any time. The documents also are cross-referenced to the corresponding chapters in the Joint Commission manuals.

ECRI Institute lists failure to embrace safety culture as one of biggest patient safety concerns
The ECRI Institute recently released its 2016 list of the Top 10 Patient Safety Concerns for Healthcare Organizations. A new addition to this year’s list was “failure to embrace a safety culture.”

Other safety concerns listed included:

- Inadequate antimicrobial stewardship
- Unintentionally retained objects despite correct count
- Patient identification errors
- Health information technology configurations and organizational workflow that do not support each other

The ECRI Institute has been collecting patient safety event reports since 2009, and has received more than 1.2 million event reports. The concerns were identified by a process that included: a review of events through the end of 2015; patient safety organizations’ root cause analyses and research requests; topics in HRC Alerts; and voting by a panel of experts.

Read the report.
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Joint Commission leaders to speak at Cleveland Clinic’s 2016 Patient Experience Summit

The Joint Commission is partnering with the Cleveland Clinic for the seventh annual Patient Experience Summit, May 15-18, at the Cleveland Convention Center. The conference features expert speakers, panel discussions and workshops representing multiple health care professions and disciplines engaged in exploring innovative ways to create and sustain a human-centric environment.

Two of those sessions feature:

- Dr. Ron Wyatt, MD, MHA, Patient Safety Officer, The Joint Commission. “Who Cares?” – Plenary Session, 8:10-8:40 a.m. Tuesday, May 17. This session covers the critical importance of equitable care, and will describe caregivers and the importance of practicing individual, coordinated and activated care that is respectful, compassionate and maintains dignity.
- Anne Kilpatrick, RN, BSN, CSSBB, Black Belt, Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare. “Getting to Zero Patient Falls through Targeted Solutions” – Break Out Session, 8-9 a.m. Wednesday, May 18. This presentation will show how organizations that have used the Center’s Preventing Falls Targeted Solutions Tool® (TST®) have reduced the rate of patient falls by 35 percent and the rate of patients injured in a fall by 62 percent.

Register for the event.

Recognition

National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week kicks off

This week, The Joint Commission joins other organizations in celebrating National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week’s (NMLPW), which kicked off April 24 and goes through April 30. The annual celebration recognizes medical laboratory professionals and pathologists and the work they do in the health care field. According to the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, approximately 300,000 people practice clinical laboratory science in the U.S.

As part of NMLPW, organizers are encouraging lab professionals to participate in a 30-day challenge of sharing what it is like to work in the field, including things like:

- Writing about a first job or internship
- Listing five things one loves about medical laboratory science
- Writing about an average work day or week
- Sharing what makes one’s career in the field meaningful

Learn more on NMLPW. The Joint Commission Chief Operating Officer Mark G. Pelletier, RN, MS, Accreditation and Certification Operations, recently wrote about Lab Week in The View From The Joint Commission.

Resources

New module on Fire Protection standard EC.02.03.05 available on PEP

A new module — LS.02.01.10 - General Requirements — is available on the Physical Environment Portal (PEP). The Joint Commission identified 25 Life Safety and Environment of Care elements of performance (EPs) from eight standards that have been frequently cited during survey activities over the past four years. The PEP, in partnership with the American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE), aims to provide helpful information to improve compliance.

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

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