

APPROVED: CAUTI NPSG for Nursing Care Centers

The Joint Commission recently added National Patient Safety Goal NPSG.07.06.01, which addresses the prevention of catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI), as a requirement for **nursing care centers**. The Joint Commission also revised NPSG.07.06.01 for **hospitals** and **critical access hospitals** to bring the Goal into alignment with the 2014 update to the Compendium of Strategies to Prevent *Healthcare-Associated Infections in Acute Care Hospitals** (the source of evidence-based practices addressed in the NPSG).

Although the prevalence of catheter-associated urinary tract infections is relatively low in nursing care centers compared to hospitals, it can lead to serious complications and is a major reason for hospitalization. While the *Compendium* is based on the hospital setting, one of the lead authors with experience in nursing care centers indicated that the practices cited in the NPSG are relevant to that setting.

The proposed NPSG for nursing care centers and hospitals was posted for field comment in the fall of 2015. The majority of the respondents from nursing care centers agreed that prevention of CAUTI should be added as an NPSG. The NPSGs were also presented to Joint Commission advisory

committees for review and comment. The new NPSG for nursing care centers and modifications to NPSG.07.06.01 for hospitals and critical access hospitals are **effective January 1, 2017**.

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The new and revised requirements are displayed on The Joint Commission website at http://www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/prepublication_standards.aspx and will be posted in the fall 2016 E-dition® for the critical access hospital, hospital, and nursing care center programs. The requirements will also appear in print this fall in the 2017 *Comprehensive Accreditation Manual* for the critical access hospital, hospital, and nursing care center programs.

Questions may be directed to Maureen Carr, MBA, project director, Department of Standards and Survey Methods, The Joint Commission, at mcarr@jointcommission.org. 

* *The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America, et al. Compendium of Strategies to Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections in Acute Care Hospitals, 2014 Update.* <http://www.shea-online.org/PriorityTopics/CompendiumofStrategiestoPreventHAIs.aspx>