Accreditation and certification

SAFER® Dashboard launches for all Joint Commission accreditation programs

On April 6, The Joint Commission launched the SAFER® Dashboard for all its accredited health care organizations. The dashboard is a self-serve data analytic tool that allows organizations to view all their survey data and Joint Commission national comparison data in one place.

The dashboard is accessible on an organization’s Joint Commission Connect® extranet site. Initial access will be given to the chief executive officer, primary accreditation contact, and primary laboratory contact (if applicable). Security administrators in the organization may grant access to additional users as needed.

All information contained in the Final Accreditation Report is available on the SAFER Dashboard. The dashboard will include all survey data (such as triennial surveys or for-cause surveys) for all accreditation programs (excluding certification program data). Users can view aggregate historical accreditation data, new survey finding data, and comparison data to help identify patterns and trends to prioritize improvement initiatives.

The development of the SAFER Dashboard has been an incremental process rooted in extensive customer feedback and collaboration. Phase 1 implementation provided the dashboard to a subset of health care organizations, which allowed The Joint Commission to gain valuable insights for further expansion. This collaboration has facilitated enhancements to deliver meaningful and useful data in a user-friendly format that is now available out to all Joint Commission-accredited organizations.

The April 6 launch included an enhancement made from the Phase 1 feedback, as the dashboard now will include Joint Commission national comparison data. This includes all surveys conducted by The Joint Commission in a designated time frame, based on organizations’ accredited programs. Organizations will have the ability to access national aggregate SAFER Matrix comparison data, as well as view and compare the national Top 10 most frequently scored standards and elements of performance.

For Joint committed accredited organizations, questions about the SAFER Dashboard may be directed to the organization’s designated account executive. Not Joint commission accredited yet? Reach out to request a demo and learn more about how this can be a powerful tool to help your organization make efficient data-driven decisions every day

Learn more about the capabilities of the SAFER Dashboard.

Starting May 1: New interoperability, patient access requirements for hospitals, CAHs

In May 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) published to the Federal Register an Interoperability and Patient Access final rule which applies to hospitals, psychiatric hospitals and critical access hospitals. In response to this final rule, The Joint Commission has created new requirements that address admission, discharge, and transfer notifications that will become effective on May 1, 2021.

View the prepublication standards. These changes will be published in the July 1, 2021 standards release.
Effective January 2022: New water management requirements
A new standard on water management programs that addresses Legionella and other waterborne pathogens will be effective for Joint Commission-accredited hospitals, critical access hospitals and nursing care centers on Jan. 1, 2022.

Currently, Environment of Care (EC) Standard EC.02.05.01, element of performance (EP) 14, for hospitals and critical access hospitals, and EP 6 for nursing care centers, require organizations to minimize pathogenic biological agents in cooling towers, domestic hot- and cold-water systems, and other aerosolizing water systems. These two EPs will continue to be scored until Dec. 31, 2021 and will then be deleted from these programs. The Joint Commission will be providing additional guidance and education later this year.

View the prepublication standards.

Performance measurement

Accelerate PI Dashboard User Guides now available for hospitals, critical access hospitals
New Accelerate PI™ Dashboard User Guides are now available on accredited organization’s Joint Commission Connect® site for hospitals and critical access hospitals. The intent of the User Guide is to:

- Increase awareness of the data contained in the dashboard reports and where to locate specific information.
- Enhance an organization’s ability to interpret the data contained in the dashboard reports to ultimately help organizations improve quality and safety.

The User Guides can be found in the “Learn More” section found under “Resources and Tools.” Additional User Guides will be added for other programs throughout the year.

Resources

Up in the blogosphere with The Joint Commission
Leading Hospital Improvement — SAFER Dashboard Available to All Accreditation Programs: The SAFER® Dashboard, part of the larger DASH™ (Data Analytics for Safe Healthcare) data transparency initiative, is now available to all accreditation programs, writes Ashley Krueger, Director, Strategic Initiatives and Business Operations.

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