Performance measurement

Pioneers in Quality program launches new series of video shorts

The Pioneers in Quality™ program has launched a new, free series of video shorts from The Joint Commission, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Mathematica Policy Research. These on-demand, 1- to 2-minute videos, cover topics related to electronic clinical quality measures (eCQMs).

Each video offers an engaging, succinct and contemporary approach on complex and comprehensive eCQM topics, including:
- Clinical quality language (CQL) basics (an excerpt from 2019 Expert to Expert Webinar)
- What is a value set?
- What is a datatype?
- What is an attribute?
- What is a quality data model (QDM) data element?

The video shorts provide flexibility and convenience for those who may need a quick refresher or orient new team members with eCQMs.

Register to access the videos on The Joint Commission’s Quality Measurement Webinars & Videos page. The Pioneers in Quality program also plans to launch an on-demand webinar series offering continuing education (CE) credit in early 2021.

Accreditation and Certification

New: Enhanced survey process for hospitals with pediatric cardiovascular programs

A new tracer activity to enhance organizations’ triennial survey process is available for Joint Commission-accredited hospitals with robust pediatric cardiovascular programs, including freestanding children’s hospitals and general medical centers.

The enhancement is a result of a yearlong pilot with pediatric cardiologist surveyors, participating hospitals and leading pediatric associations. It dedicates survey time to more thoroughly evaluate the following key areas for pediatric cardiovascular programs:
- Culture of safety, leadership and transparency.
- Data collection, board involvement and reporting.
- Credentialing and privileging.

Surveyors will conduct one-on-one, 10-to-15-minute private conversations with frontline staff in the pediatric cardiovascular program to gather information and evaluate the key areas. These conversations are meant to be an informal way for The Joint Commission to better understand and help address patient safety and quality concerns within a hospital’s pediatric cardiovascular program. (Contact: Patsy Buckberg, pbuckberg@jointcommission.org)

Effective July 1: Accreditation Participation Requirements revisions

The Joint Commission has approved minor revisions to its Accreditation Participation Requirements (APR) chapter for all accreditation programs. These revisions include minor language changes and removal of requirements addressing the Focused Standards Assessment (FSA), as the intracycle monitoring process and FSA are more fully addressed in the Accreditation Process chapter.
The revisions — effective July 1 — will be for the following programs:

- Hospital
- Critical Access Hospital
- Ambulatory Health Care
- Behavioral Health Care and Human Services
- Home Care
- Laboratory
- Nursing Care Center
- Office-Based Surgery

View the prepublication standards.

New EPs approved for MM.04.01.01 for Office-Based Surgery program

Four new elements of performance (EPs) have been approved to address medication orders for office-based surgery (OBS) practices that prescribe medications, effective July 1. The EPs for Medication Management (MM) Standard MM.04.01.01 align with requirements within the other accredited programs providing the same level of care and address the following:

- Following a written policy that identifies specific types of medication orders deemed acceptable for use.
- Following a written policy that defines specific components of a medication order.
- Using current evidence and practice if preprinted medication order sheets are used.
- Prohibiting summary (blanket) orders to resume previous medications.

View the prepublication standards.

Effective July 1: Revision to EM.03.01.03 for Home Care program

The Joint Commission has made changes to its Emergency Management (EM) Standard EM.03.01.03 to provide better guidance and consistency for its Home Care Accreditation program. The revision go into effect on July 1. The expectation of this standard is that an accredited organization conducts exercises to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of its emergency management plan regarding logistics, human resources, training, policies, procedures, and protocols.

View the prepublication standards.

Effective July 1: Changes to BHC program’s EC, LS chapters to align with NFPA requirements

Several changes have been made to the Environment of Care (EC) and Life Safety (LS) chapter requirements for behavioral health care and human services organizations, effective July 1. These changes were made to better align with and clarify the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) requirements for residential board and care occupancies, as well as to clarify fire drill requirements.

View the prepublication standards.

Resources

Up in the blogosphere with The Joint Commission

- Leading Hospital Improvement – Environment of Care Considerations: Even as the COVID-19 vaccine rolls out, intensive care units are increasingly taxed. It is more important than ever to continue innovating on how to optimize our environment of care, writes Jim Kendig, Field Director.
- Ambulatory Buzz – Best of AmBuzz in 2020: See the AmBuzz blogs from 2020 that created the most buzz, writes Pearl Darling, MBA, Executive Director, Ambulatory Care Services.

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