

# Prepublication Requirements



## Revisions to Rural Health Clinic Requirements to Align with CMS CfCs

The Joint Commission has approved the following revisions for prepublication. While revised requirements are published in the semiannual updates to the print manuals (as well as in the online *E-dition®*), accredited organizations and paid subscribers can also view them in the monthly periodical *The Joint Commission Perspectives®*. To begin your subscription, call 800-746-6578 or visit <http://www.jcrinc.com>.

**Please note:** Where applicable, this report shows current standards and EPs first, with deleted language struck-through. Then, the revised requirement follows in bold text, with new language underlined.

### APPLICABLE TO THE RURAL HEALTH CLINIC ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Effective Immediately; January 1, 2026 publish

#### Leadership (LD) Chapter

#### LD.04.03.01

The rural health clinic provides services that meet patient needs.

##### Element(s) of Performance for LD.04.03.01

**New EP 8 The rural health clinic must provide primary care services.**

EP 9 The rural health clinic provides basic laboratory services essential to the immediate diagnosis and treatment of the patient, which include the following:

- Chemical examinations of urine by stick or tablet method or both (including urine ketones)
- ~~- Hemoglobin or hematocrit blood tests~~
- Blood glucose tests
- ~~- Examination of stool specimens for occult blood~~
- Pregnancy tests
- ~~- Primary culturing for transmittal to a certified laboratory~~

**Revised EP 9 The rural health clinic provides basic laboratory services essential to the immediate diagnosis and treatment of the patient, which include the following:**

- Chemical examinations of urine by stick or tablet method or both (including urine ketones)
- Blood glucose tests
- Pregnancy tests
- Collection of patient specimens for transmittal to a certified laboratory for culturing