



Q&A With The Joint Commission

Navigating the Most Common First Survey Challenges

Hospital Accreditation

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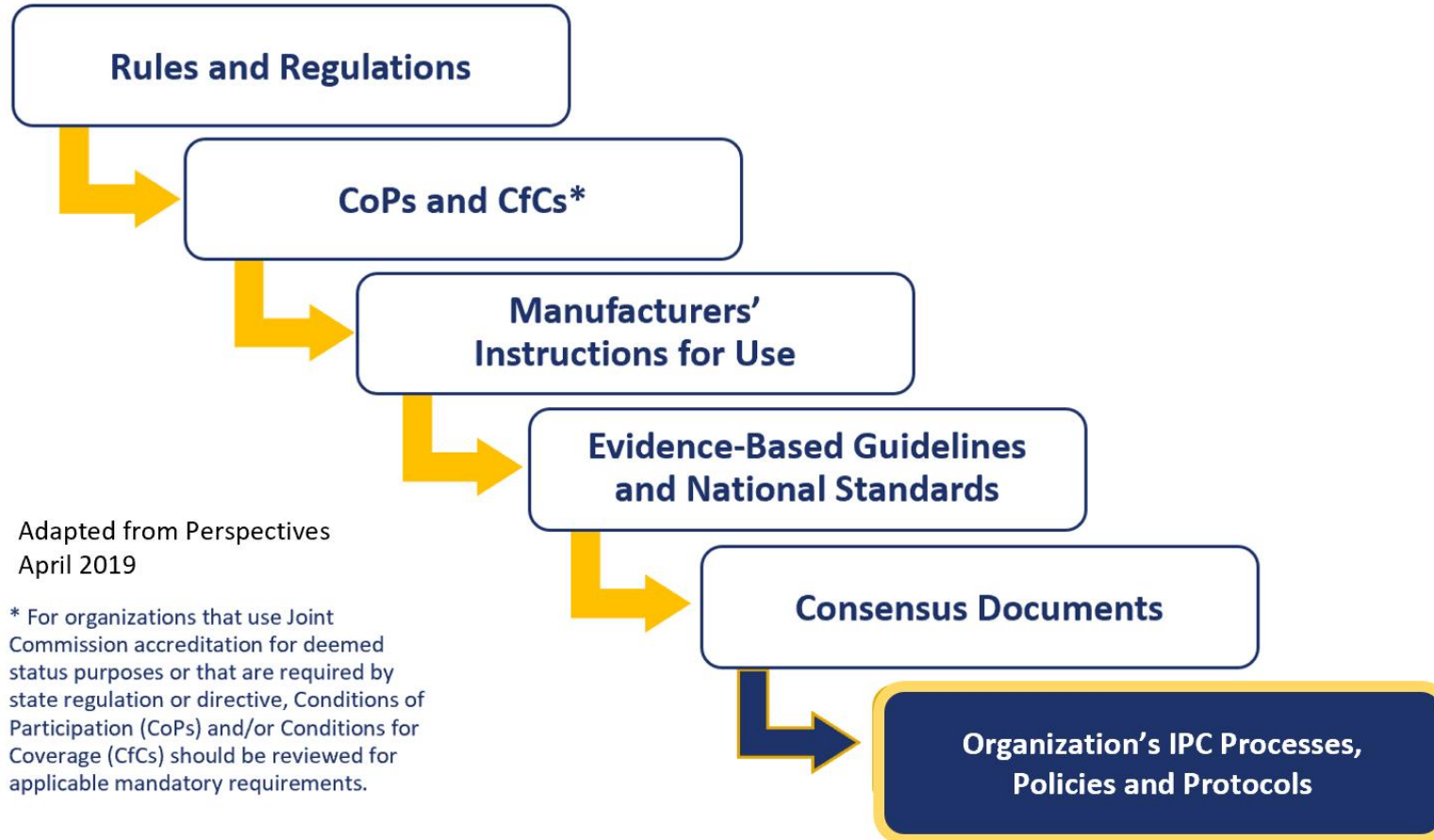


Infection Control

Pre-Submitted Questions

With the ongoing changes in guidance with the current pandemic, how can an organization prepare for a successful accreditation visit in regard to the infection control standards?

Follow the Hierarchical Approach



Source: <https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/resources/patient-safety-topics/infection-prevention-and-hai/ic-hierarchical-approach-to-scoring-standards-april-2019-perspectives.pdf>

Resources to Answer YOUR Questions

← → ↻ ⬆️ 🔒 jointcommission.org



Our Websites: ▾

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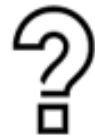


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Resource for Common Questions

Interpreting Joint Commission Standards: FAQs

The Joint Commission's standards are developed with input from a variety of health care professionals, consumers, government agencies and other experts. They form the basis of our evaluation process, and they help you measure, assess and improve your performance.



Ask Organization Specific Questions

Can't Find What You're Looking For?

If you do not find an answer to your question, please contact the Standards Interpretation Group (SIG).

[Ask a standards interpretation question](#)

Note: To provide adequate support to those organizations that are either accredited/certified or seeking accreditation/certification, we will only answer those questions submitted by those organizations seeking accreditation/certification or currently accredited/certified by the Joint Commission. The Joint Commission no longer answers questions submitted by students or vendors. Thank you for your understanding.



Pre-Submitted Questions

Will we be penalized if staff that do not work with patients wear a cloth mask with a disposable mask underneath?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Please review the infection control standards pertaining to COVID-19 that will stay in effect.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Are the infection standards weighted more heavily than others because of the pandemic or are they the same when we're not under a public health emergency?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Beyond the infection control standards in the manual, are there extra ones for COVID that are not in there?

Pre-Submitted Questions

How will the surveyor audit the CMS requirement for COVID vaccine?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Will the surveyors request for specific COVID infection control information?

Pre-Submitted Questions

What is the Joint Commission's recommendation regarding how to follow Instructions For Use that offer a limited disinfection list when manufacturer will not clarify or dictate if certain disinfectants are appropriate?

Environment of Care and Life Safety

Pre-Submitted Questions

Medical Gas storage -- Can 1 or more "in use" medical gas in a rolling cart be stored in a designated clean storage area and does that storage area then require signage? What if there is an electrical panel in that storage area?

Pre-Submitted Questions

How often should the floors be cleaned at a facility in ancillary areas?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Besides the fire drill requirements per The Joint Commission standards, are emergency codes (i.e. Code Pink, Green, Blue, etc.) required on a regular basis for provider-based clinics (clinics under the hospital license)?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Is there a certain format that surveyors are expecting to see in EP 2 that shows, "an evaluation of the physical and chemical conditions of each step of the water flow diagram?"

Please define physical/chemical conditions and review the new water standards.

Pre-Submitted Questions

For time frames, is The Joint Commission looking for frequencies at intervals from the date of the last event? I.e for quarter frequencies, will surveyors start counting +/- 10 days from the last inspection date? 1st Quarter. 1/18/22, 2nd Quarter due 4/08/22 - 4/28/22?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Is there a checklist of items available that
The Joint Commission uses while walking
the facilities?

Survey Process

Pre-Submitted Questions

We are building a children's hospital that will have an initial survey. Is the survey process the same as for our original acute care hospital?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Is there a special part of the survey that's going to occur that is just devoted to COVID?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Are there any special survey requirements for COVID positive hospitals?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Will the surveyors tell us exactly who they want to be present during every day or will we know that before you come?

Pre-Submitted Questions

How many surveyors will be there be? Do they stay together or will they be going to different areas separately as we go through this?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Do we always have to have someone escort them or do they do their own walkabouts without any of our staff with them?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Will the surveyors address the issue of privileging when they arrive or does that occur elsewhere in the survey?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Will someone point blank ask us about the vaccine status of our staff, providers, students?

Standards Questions

Pre-Submitted Questions

What are the requirements for tissue tracking and maintenance of Instructions for Use (IFUs)?

Pre-Submitted Questions

What's the best way to prepare as someone new to quality?

Pre-Submitted Questions

How long we should keep the pharmacy records ready for inspection?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Is there a check off list or guide for a new hospital survey we could utilize as a cross reference to tracers?

Pre-Submitted Questions

What are some tips to give staff who've never participated in the survey process? Can they ask the surveyors questions?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Do The Joint Commission standards define onboarding/orientation processes for staff who resign or end a travel nurse contract for a brief period and then return to the same clinical setting? Example: Travel nurse delays the begin of a new contract by 4 weeks.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Where do we locate the eligibility requirements and understanding the requirements?

Account Operations

Pre-Submitted Questions

Due to the pandemic, will our initial survey be on time or delayed?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Do we have the opportunity to say when we don't want our first survey? Since we began the process we've had a lot of COVID cases.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Are full accreditation surveys being conducted using the hybrid model?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Will we know how many days Joint Commission will be here so we can prepare the staff?

Pre-Submitted Questions

Do we have any advance warning when the team is going to come into the hospital to begin the survey?

Continuous Resources: Key Example: *The Heads Up Report*

Resources on Joint Commission Connect® Extranet Site

Joint Commission's Standards Interpretation Group

<http://web.jointcommission.org/sigsubmission/sigquestionform.aspx>

Resources

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- E-dition
- Perspectives
- Publicity Kit
- Certificates

Tools

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- Targeted Solutions Tool®
- Standards Interpretation
- Heads Up Report

Time for additional questions

Thank you!