

Prepublication Requirements



Revised Infection Control Chapter

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 HOME CARE ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Effective January 1, 2025

Infection Prevention and Control (IC) Chapter

IC.04.01.01

The organization maintains and documents an organizationwide infection prevention and control program for the prevention and control of infections and communicable diseases.

Element(s) of Performance for IC.04.01.01

New EP 3 The organization has written policies and procedures to guide its activities and methods for preventing and controlling the transmission of infections and communicable diseases. The policies and procedures are in accordance with applicable law and regulation, nationally recognized evidence-based guidelines, and standards of practice, including the use of standard precautions.

Note: Standard precautions include hand hygiene, environmental cleaning and disinfection, injection and medication safety, use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), minimizing potential exposures, and reprocessing of reusable medical equipment or devices. For full details on standard precautions, refer to The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Core Infection Prevention and Control Practices for Safe Healthcare Delivery in All Settings <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/core-practices/index.html>

Ⓓ Documentation is required

New EP 6 The organization has procedures or methods for identifying infections and communicable disease issues.

Note: Examples of methods used to identify infections may include, but are not limited to, methods for identifying new signs or symptoms of infection, clinical record reviews, reviews of laboratory results, and staff reporting procedures.

Ⓓ Documentation is required

New EP 7 The infection prevention and control program is organizationwide and an integral part of the organization's quality assessment and performance improvement program.

New EP 8 The organization provides infection control education to staff, patients, family, and other caregivers.

Ⓓ Documentation is required

IC.06.01.01

The organization implements activities for the prevention and control of infections and communicable diseases.

Element(s) of Performance for IC.06.01.01

New EP 3 The organization implements activities for the surveillance, identification, prevention, control, and investigation of infections and communicable diseases, including the use of standard precautions.
(See also NPSG.07.01.01, EP 1)

New EP 6 The organization develops and implements necessary action plans to address infection control issues and improve its infection prevention and control program.
Note 1: Examples of actions to address issues or improve the infection prevention and control program may include changes to policies and procedures, educating staff, and monitoring of process or outcome measures.
Note 2: The organization evaluates and revises its plan as needed.

Ⓓ Documentation is required

New EP 7 For hospices providing inpatient care in their own facilities that elect to use The Joint Commission deemed status option: The organization maintains a sanitary environment .

New EP 8 For hospices providing inpatient care in their own facilities that elect to use The Joint Commission deemed status option: The organization has available at all times sufficient amounts of clean linen for all patient uses. Linens are handled, stored, processed, and transported in such a manner as to prevent the spread of contaminants.
