



## **Accreditation Bulletin:**

### **JCI 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of International Accreditation Standards for Hospitals Now in Effect**

On 1 January 2021, the new Joint Commission International Accreditation Standards for Hospitals 7th Edition went into effect which means all hospitals and academic medical centers seeking accreditation or reaccreditation from JCI will need to comply with the updated set of accreditation standards, as they will be surveyed under the 7th edition.

JCI international standards are the basis for the accreditation of hospitals and academic medical centers throughout the world. The standards define the performance expectations, structures and functions that must be in place to be accredited by JCI and reflect the most up-to-date scientific evidence on patient safety as well as input from our current JCI accredited organizations and other expert stakeholders.

The 7th edition includes updates to both the patient-centered care and health care organization management sections of the manual. Specific enhancements include new or revised standards in these areas:

- International Patient Safety Goals including changes and expanded requirements to high-alert, look-alike/sound-alike medications and concentrated electrolytes, in addition to a new goal related to reducing the incidence of hospital-acquired infections.
- Care of Patients Chapter that addresses the management of clinical alarm systems, patients at risk of suicide or self-harm and lasers.
- Prevention and Control of Infections Chapter that covers environmental cleanliness for laundry, linens and scrubs, as well as the protection of patients and staff from bloodborne pathogens.
- Facility Management and Safety Chapter that includes fire safety, including the use of interim measures, clarification of expectations for availability of critical utilities and hemodialysis water quality.
- Management of Information Chapter that reviews data access controls, protecting data and information, education and ongoing training of staff who use electronic medical records and the use of scribes.

Other enhancements include the clarification of sentinel events, adverse events and near misses, an expanded and unified glossary, and updated references and revised chapter overviews.

Additionally, JCI is pleased to announce that its 7th edition hospital and medical center standards have been awarded accreditation by the International Society for Quality in Health Care External Evaluation Association (IEEA). ISQua, known as the accreditor of accreditors, is a global organization responsible for assessing the standards of organizations that set the benchmarks in health care safety and quality. The accreditation is approved from December 2020 to December 2024.

For more information on JCI's 7th Edition of International Accreditation Standards for Hospitals visit our [web site](#).

For questions, please contact [jciaccreditation@jcrinc.com](mailto:jciaccreditation@jcrinc.com).