

JCI Accreditation Standards for Laboratories 4th Edition: Available Now and Become Effective 1 January 2022

JCI is excited to announce the publication of 4th Edition of International Accreditation Standards for Laboratories. 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 fourth edition introduces new chapters on Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (QPS) and the Prevention and Control of Infections (PCI) within the manual's section on laboratory organization management. It also expands the Quality Control Process (QCP) chapter to align with the most recent advances in laboratory medicine, including requirements for different laboratory specialties such as:

- Histopathology
- Immunohistochemistry
- Anatomic pathology
- Histocompatibility
- Molecular Methods

Additionally, the updated manual includes unique and specific requirements for in vitro fertilization (IVF) laboratories and more. As part of this update, JCI aligned requirements with global laboratory-setting organizations such as the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI), American Society for Microbiology (ASM), AABB, American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) and others.

A crosswalk to International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 15189: Medical Laboratories – Requirements for Quality and Competence is included in the fourth edition, as well as an introduction that serves as a user guide, summary of JCI's accreditation policies and procedures, comprehensive glossary of key terms, and detailed index.

Organizations Seeking Accreditation or Reaccreditation

Beginning 1 January 2022, all laboratories seeking accreditation or reaccreditation from JCI will need to comply with the updated set of accreditation standards, as they will be surveyed under the 4th edition. Prior to 1 January 2022, organizations will be surveyed under the 3rd edition.

The 4th edition manual is complimentary to current JCI-accredited laboratory customers through <u>JCI</u> <u>Direct Connect</u> and is also <u>available for purchase</u>.

For questions, please contact jciaccreditation@jcrinc.com.