

Safe Health Design Services

Improve Safety and Accelerate JCI
Accreditation in New Construction



When you are planning new construction, two major safety questions arise: Will the new building meet leading practices in safety and quality? Will my staff be ready for JCI accreditation as quickly as possible after occupancy?

The answer to both questions can be a resounding “Yes!” with help from Joint Commission International (JCI). JCI Safe Health Design Services deliver a unified solution toward building a patient-safe facility and earning JCI’s Gold Seal of Approval.

Here’s one key to success: Begin JCI accreditation preparation early — at the design stage — so your team can make upfront safety and quality decisions to avoid risks, expensive errors, and accreditation delays while setting a clear path toward JCI accreditation. Our Safe Health Design approach is adaptable to large or small campuses and is directed by a team of clinical, infection control, and facility safety experts from JCI.

How to Build-in Safety, Quality, and JCI Accreditation Readiness

Every relevant function is assessed as part of the Safe Health Design framework, from building access and security to technology and infection control. Our unique tracer methodology maps seven key process flows of patients, providers, visitors, supplies, equipment, medication, and information to reveal breakdowns in safety processes, inefficiencies, or space allocation issues that create risks to providing high-quality care.

A Safe Health Design consultation during the design phase can help avoid costly change orders or renovations once a facility opens. Common findings are inadequate fire safety, insufficient clinical sinks for hand hygiene, and improper flow in sterilization processes. Any of these issues can cost an organization thousands to hundreds of thousand of dollars to modify after the design phase.

We work side by side with your leaders and staff to make early improvements for a successful opening and accreditation survey.

Benefits of JCI Safe Health Design Services

- Reduce risks with leading evidence-based design practices
- Helps save money by avoiding design errors or omissions and rework
- Helps accelerate your path to JCI accreditation
- Identify opportunities for improved patient care and greater efficiency

Safe Health Design Engagements Completed Across the Globe



New Construction Plus JCI Accreditation Preparation

JCI survey typically completed 6-12 months post-occupancy

Planning and design review: Address issues in Governance, Leadership, and Director chapter; make sure design supports safe and effective processes required for JCI accreditation

Environment and construction safety assessment: Maintain clean, safe construction site; protect patient environment for occupancy; work with JCI experts on fire safety and environment of care

Process alignment: Prepare policies and procedures congruent with JCI standards; work with JCI experts in infection control, patient safety, patient/family rights, and security

Operational readiness: Test pre-occupancy readiness for safe care; use Safe Clinical Occupancy Readiness Evaluation (SCORE) methodology

Tracers, staff training, and RPI: Engage JCI team to deliver standards and survey overview, “leading practice” workshops, and advice on topics such as tracers, infection control, and areas for improvement

Mock survey and RPI remedies and training: Use a mock survey to uncover and fix performance gaps; involve leaders, physicians, and staff in preparing for a JCI survey

JCI survey: Involves conferences, interviews, facility tours, and other interactions

Timeline



Kathy Reno, PhD, MBA, RN, EDAC, JCI Safe Health Design Consultant, Certified Yellow Belt, Joint Commission International

“Engaging early with the JCI Safe Health Design team is a tremendous asset to our clients. They advance their accreditation preparation while ensuring that the new facility meets leading safety and quality standards.”

Visit <https://www.jointcommissioninternational.org/improve/safe-health-design-services/>



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