

The Joint Commission

The Joint Commission 70-year Historical Timeline

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1950s	1960s	1970s	1980 s	1990 s	2000s	2010s	Present
 1950-51 The American College of Physicians, the American Hospital Association, the American Medical Association, and the Canadian Medical Association join with the ACS as corporate members to create the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals (JCAH), an independent, not-forprofit organization, whose primary purpose is to provide voluntary accreditation. 1952 Edwin L. Crosby, M.D., becomes the first director 1953-1959 JCAH publishes Standards for Hospital Accreditation. Kenneth Babcock, M.D., becomes director of JCAH. 	1965 Congress passes the Social Security Amendments of 1965 with a provision that hospitals accredited by JCAH are "deemed" to be in compliance and, thus, able to participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. 	 1970 The Accreditation Council for Psychiatric Facilities is established and accreditation for psychiatric facilities, substance abuse programs and community mental health programs begins. 1975-77 The Accreditation Council for Ambulatory Health Care is established and accreditation for ambulatory health care facilities begins. 1978-79 JCAH establishes an agreement with the College of American Pathologists to recognize CAP accreditation of a laboratory in a JCAH-accredited hospital in lieu of the Commission's accreditation of the laboratory. 	 1982-83 Accreditation for hospice care organizations begins. 1986 Quality Healthcare Resources® (QHR), Inc. is formed as a not-for-profit consulting subsidiary of JCAH. (QHR later becomes Joint Commission Resources.) 1987-1989 The organization name changes to the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations to reflect an expanded scope of activities. 	 1994 Quality Healthcare Resources, Inc.® and the Joint Commission International. 1995 The federal government recognizes Joint Commission laboratory accreditation services. 1999 The Joint Commission establishes a toll free hot line to encourage patients, their families, caregivers, and others to share concerns regarding quality of care issues at accredited health care organizations. 	 2000 Joint Commission International publishes the first comprehensive set of international quality standards for hospitals 2001 A new accreditation program for office-based surgery practices is introduced. A new accreditation program for critical access hospitals is launched. 2002 The Disease-Specific Care Certification program launches. 2003 The Joint Commission creates The Gold Seal of Approval® that is displayed on all certificates of accreditation. 2006 The Joint Commission begins conducting on-site accreditation surveys and certification reviews on an unannounced basis. 2007 The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations shortens its name to The Joint Commission. 2009 The Joint Commission 	 2010 The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services names The Joint Commission a designated accreditor of advanced diagnostic imaging centers. 2012 The Joint Commission and the American Heart Association /American Stroke Association announce the launch of the Disease-Specific Care Advanced Certification Program for Comprehensive Stroke Centers. 2013 The Joint Commission debuts its new Nursing and Rehabilitation Center Accreditation program, and for the first time offers a Rehabilitation and Advanced Care Certification option. 2016 Advanced Certification for Total Hip and Total Knee Replacement launched for hospitals, critical access hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers. 2017 Comprehensive Cardiac Center Certification was introduced to recognize hospitals that demonstrate 	 2018 The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and The Joint Commission announce a collaboration to incorporate AAOS clinical expertise into standards development and performance measurement requirements for Total Hip and Knee Replacement Certification. 2019 Joint Commission Resources introduced its Tracers with AMP Analytics Reporting Tool, a cloud-based software platform that helps organizations assess quality of care, levels of compliance, and identify areas of vulnerability in their organizations. 2020 The Joint Commission issued a statement supporting the use of standard face masks and/or respirators provided from home when health care organizations cannot provide access to protective equipment that is commensurate with the risk health care workers are exposed to amid the COVID -19 pandemic.
					launches its Center for	excellence in cardiac care.	

Transforming Healthcare.