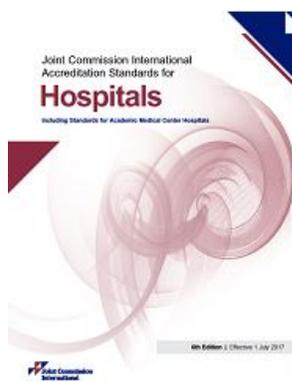




## 6th Edition in Depth

*This month JCI Insight debuts a new feature. Each month the newsletter will highlight a section of the soon-to-be-published 6th edition Hospital Standards. This article will provide a closer look at areas of concern to JCI-accredited hospitals and any health care organization concerned with patient safety and quality improvement. We hope you enjoy this new feature.*



### The Importance of Antibiotic Stewardship

The World Health Organization (WHO) announced the beginning of the “post-antibiotic” era in April 2014 and declared antimicrobial resistance a global health issue. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that each year in the United States approximately 2 million people develop an infection that is resistant to antibiotics and about 23,000 of these people die as a result of the infection.

A project commissioned by the British government, entitled The Review on Antimicrobial Resistance, released a report stating that an estimated 50,000 deaths annually in the U.S. and Europe are linked to antibiotic resistance and the worldwide estimate of deaths each year due to antibiotic resistance is about 700,000.

For those who have not experienced the danger of antibiotic resistance, the problem may not seem alarming; however, resistance to antibiotics will eventually lead to limitations in medical treatment options because of bacteria that cannot be managed or killed by available antibiotics. For example, the safety of surgical procedures may be threatened due to the increasing resistance to antibiotics, and patients who are immunocompromised from chemotherapy may experience life-threatening complications from superbugs that have become resistant to antibiotics.

Joint Commission International (JCI) continually strives to identify trends in health care to ensure our standards help organizations provide safer patient care. One of several new standards developed for the JCI Accreditation Standards for Hospitals, 6th edition

addresses the issue associated with antimicrobial resistance. New standard MMU.1.1 requires organizations to develop and implement a program for antibiotic stewardship.

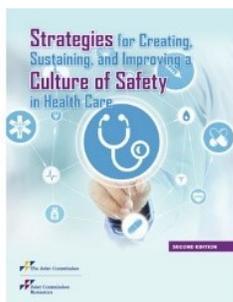
MMU.1.1 also requires the program for antibiotic stewardship to involve infection prevention and control professionals, as well as physicians, nurses, pharmacists, trainees, patients, and families. Patients and families are included as part of the program to ensure they understand the importance of compliance with antibiotic treatment.

Included as part of the program is the need for proper use of antibiotics for prophylaxis in addition to properly prescribing antibiotics for infections. The standard also requires the hospital to have a mechanism for oversight that may include reporting to the pharmacy and therapeutics committee, a small work group, a task force, or some other mechanism to oversee the program and track the effectiveness of measures to improve the proper use of antibiotics.

Monitoring the effectiveness of an antibiotic stewardship program is important for identifying the success of the program. Examples of the effectiveness of the program may include an increase in compliance with stopping prophylactic antibiotics on time or a decrease in the inappropriate use of broad spectrum antibiotics.

Implementing an antibiotic stewardship program takes time and resources. It may be helpful to start small and expand slowly. It is important to use data to guide the development and expansion of the program when possible. In order to gain hospital-wide acceptance and increase success for the program, formal implementation is recommended as well as leadership support for staffing, technical, and financial resources.

The next edition of JCI's hospital manual is now available for pre-order. Visit the [JCI website](#) for details.



### **Order your copy of *Strategies for Creating, Sustaining, and Improving a Culture of Safety in Health Care*, 2nd edition.**

This resource expands upon the idea of building a culture of safety by spotlighting the best articles related to this topic from *The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*<sup>®</sup>. These articles provide unique perspectives on challenges inherent when establishing and maintaining a culture of safety. Visit the JCI website to [learn more](#).

### **JCI expands hospital accreditation into new markets.**

With nearly 900 accredited organizations in 65 countries, Joint Commission International has joined forces with thousands of health care leaders and clinicians across the globe to improve patient safety and support the advancement of health care quality improvement. In 2016 four new countries joined the JCI global community: Azerbaijan, Macedonia, Mongolia, and Tanzania.

Since 1999 hundreds of organizations have earned JCI accreditation, forming an elite group

of organizations that have achieved the Gold Seal of Approval® recognition in quality and safety.

[Click here to find a JCI-accredited organization.](#)

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### **Complimentary Accreditation Preparation Webinar - Coming Soon.**

In January JCI's Advisory Services unit will host a complimentary webinar focusing on the most challenging aspects of JCI's Hospital Standards and survey preparation. This webinar is especially helpful for hospitals that are preparing for a JCI survey under the 5th edition. Don't miss this valuable opportunity to learn from an experienced JCI consultant as she will share tips and insights to help you prepare for accreditation survey and maintain compliance.

Time and date will be announced shortly via Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Watch for details.

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### **Join JCI experts at Arab Health 30 January – 2 February 2017.**

Visit JCI experts at booth H1.E39 at Arab Health in Dubai, UAE, next month. During the Quality Management Conference (1-2 February), President and CEO Paula Wilson will offer an overview of changes to the 6th edition Hospital Accreditation Standards on 1 February at 11:30 a.m. Vice President of Accreditation, Standards, and Measurement Dr. Paul Chang will discuss upcoming changes to the JCI survey process on 1 February at 12:00 p.m.

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