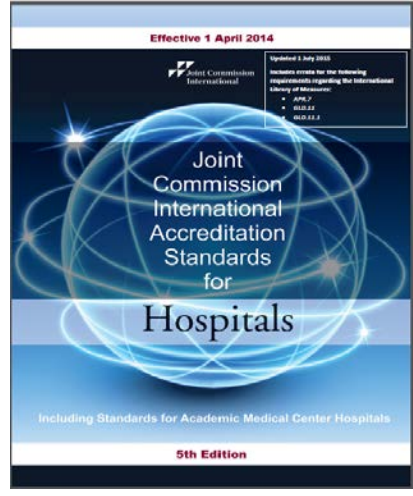




Compliance to JCI's 5th Edition Hospital Program's Decision Rules

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Introduction



Joint Commission International (JCI) has over 1,023 accredited and certified programs in 67 countries as of July 2017.

- Determination of accreditation is based on decision rules for each program, which are applied uniformly across organizations.
- Accreditation decision rules are established criteria, based on specific conditions related to compliance with the program's standards and International Patient Safety Goals (IPSGs) as evidenced by the scores achieved by the organization on each applicable measurable element, standard, chapter and overall compliance with all standards.
- Hospitals must demonstrate compliance with five decision rules to be accredited.

Objective

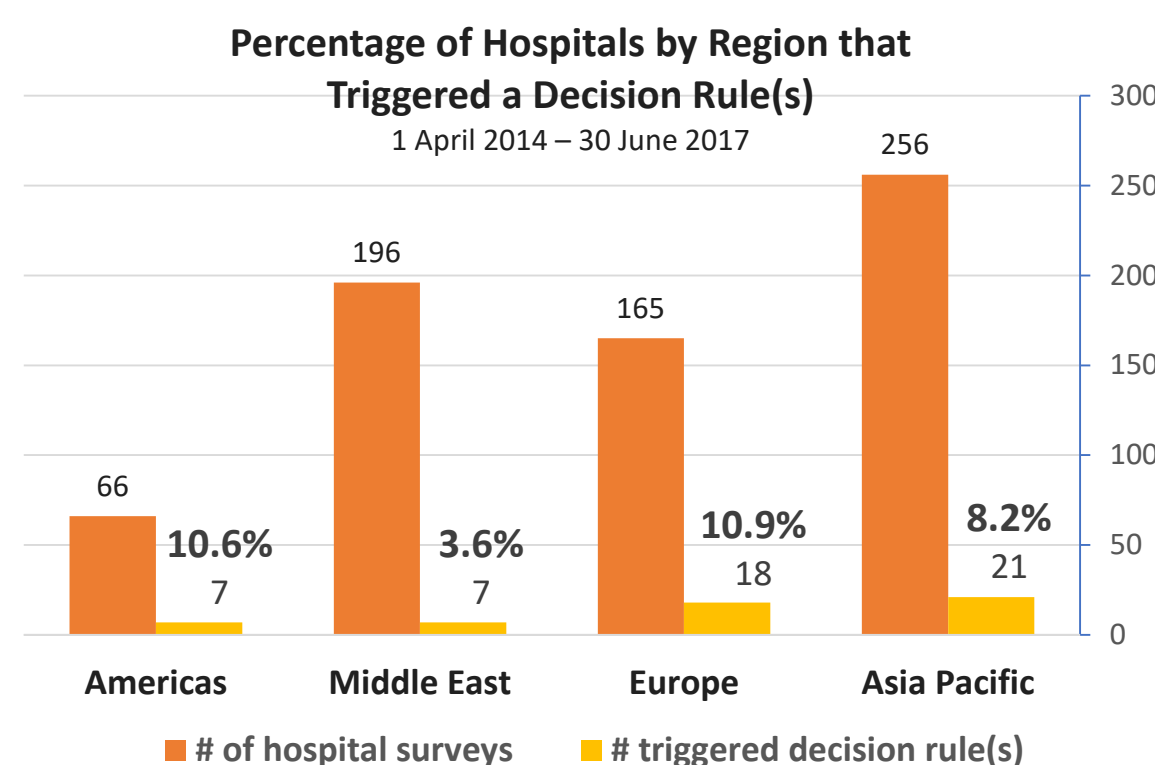
The objective of this study was to review overall and regional compliance with decision rules for all hospitals undergoing a full accreditation survey under JCI's 5th Edition Hospital Program.

Method

The analysis focused on all hospitals undergoing a full accreditation survey under the 5th Edition Hospital Program, which was in effect from 1 April 2014 to 30 June 2017, and did not meet ("triggered") one or more of the five JCI hospital decision rules.

Results

There was a total of 683 full hospital accreditation surveys during the study timeframe. Of these, 53 hospitals (21 Asia Pacific, 18 Europe, 7 Middle East, and 7 America's) triggered one or more of JCI's accreditation decision rules and required a follow-up survey.



- **Decision rule 1 requires an acceptable score at the standard level.** Overall, this rule was triggered the most. The top three standards that hospitals struggled with were COP.3.1; ACC.4.4; and SQE.11 (see Table 1).
- **Decision rule 2 requires an acceptable threshold for all standards within a chapter.** This rule was triggered for only the International Patient Safety Goals (IPSGs) chapter.
- **Decision rule 3 requires an aggregate score be met for all standards.** This rule was not triggered.
- **Decision rule 4 requires that the total number of findings scored is not above the mean for hospitals surveyed within the previous 24 months.** This rule was triggered 40 times.
- **Decision rule 5 requires that no measurable elements in the IPSG chapter is scored "not met."** The top three IPSGs scored were IPSG.2.2, IPSG.4, and IPSG.4.1 (see Table 2).

Table 1.

Top three standards that triggered Decision Rule 1 by Region

Standard	Asia Pacific	Europe	Middle East	Americas	Total
COP.3.1	2	7	1	1	11
ACC.4.4	4	2	0	2	8
SQE.11	2	3	0	1	6

Standard COP.3.1 Clinical staff are trained to recognize and respond to changes in a patient's condition. ****New standard in 5th Edition**

Standard ACC.4.4 The records of outpatients requiring complex care or with complex diagnoses contain profiles of the medical care and are made available to health care practitioners providing care to those patients.

Standard SQE.11 The hospital uses an ongoing standardized process to evaluate the quality and safety of the patient care provided by each medical staff member.

Table 2.

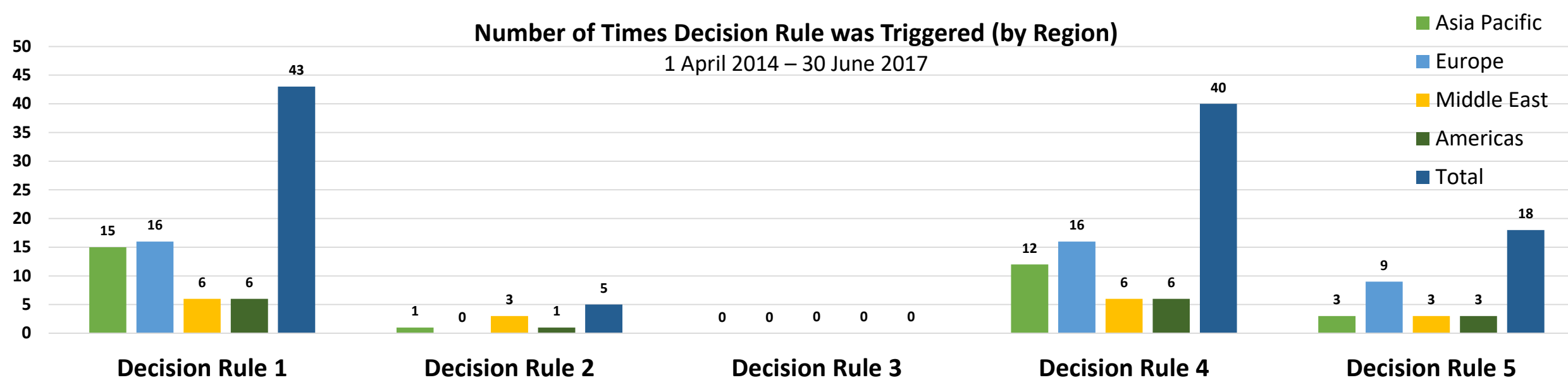
Top three IPSGs that triggered Decision Rule 5 by Region

IPSG	Asia Pacific	Europe	Middle East	Americas	Total
IPSG.2.2	1	4	1	2	8
IPSG.4.1	0	5	2	0	7
IPSG.4	0	2	0	2	4

IPSG.2.2 The hospital develops and implements a process for handover communication. ****New IPSG in 5th Edition**

IPSG.4.1 The hospital develops and implements a process for the time-out that is performed in the operating theatre immediately prior to the start of surgery to ensure correct-site, correct-procedure, and correct-patient surgery.

IPSG.4 The hospital develops and implements a process for ensuring correct-site, correct-procedure, and correct-patient surgery.



Conclusion

- Overall, hospitals undergoing a full accreditation survey were well prepared. Of the 683 full hospital accreditation surveys during the study timeframe, 53 hospitals (7.8%) did not meet one or more JCI's accreditation decision rules and required a follow-up survey prior to becoming accredited or maintaining their accreditation.
- The top standard that triggered Decision Rule 1 and the top IPSG that triggered Decision Rule 5 were new requirements in the 5th Edition Hospital Program.
- Compliance to JCI's hospital accreditation decision rules during full hospital surveys under the 5th Edition Hospital Program, from 1 April 2014 to 30 June 2017, presented some similarities as well as some regional differences. Local understanding and customized solutions may be required if international accreditation organizations are to support the enhancement of patient safety and quality healthcare globally.