

Joint Commission for Healthcare

What is JCAHO? Here is a short introduction of JCAHO that I found at the Joint commission website.

JCAHO stands for the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations a private nongovernmental agency formed to set up guidelines for the operation of hospitals and other health care facilities, conduct surveys, and awards accreditation for the attainment of high standards of quality in institutional medical care in the United States. The Joint Commission is dedicated to improving quality of healthcare. The mission of Joint Commission is to continuously improve the safety and quality of care provided to the public through the provision of health care accreditation and related services that support performance improvement in health care organizations.

The Joint Commission has been nation's predominant standards-setting and accrediting body in health care since 1951. It evaluates and accredits more than 16,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. The Joint Commission has maintained state-of-the-art standards that focus on improving the quality and safety of care provided by health care organizations. The Joint Commission's comprehensive process evaluates an organization's compliance with these standards and other accreditation or certification requirements. Joint Commission accreditation and certification is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality that reflects an organization's commitment to meeting certain performance standards. An organization must undergo an on-site survey by a Joint Commission survey team at least every three years to earn and maintain The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval.

Accreditation and certification services

The Joint Commission provides accreditation services for the following types of organizations:

- General, psychiatric, children's and rehabilitation hospitals
- Critical access hospitals
- Medical equipment services, hospice services and other home care organizations
- Nursing homes and other long term care facilities
- Behavioral health care organizations, addiction services
- Rehabilitation centers, group practices, office-based surgeries and other ambulatory care providers
- Independent or freestanding laboratories

The Joint Commission also awards Disease Specific Care Certification to health plans, disease management service companies, hospitals and other care delivery settings that provide disease management and chronic care services. The Joint Commission also has a Health Care Staffing Services Certification Program and is developing a certification program for transplant centers and health care services

Benefits of Joint Commission accreditation and certification

- Strengthens community confidence in the quality and safety of care, treatment and services
- Provides a competitive edge in the marketplace
- Improves risk management and risk reduction
- Provides education on good practices to improve business operations
- Provides professional advice and counsel, enhancing staff education
- Enhances staff recruitment and development

- Recognized by select insurers and other third parties
- May fulfill regulatory requirements in select states

Wow. I dint know that JCAHO covered so many aspects.

About emPower

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