Raising the Bar for Patient Safety

National Patient Safety Goals
Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations

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Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO)

- Non Profit accrediting body
- Hospitals, labs, long term care, ambulatory, etc.
- Set standards and national patient safety goals
JCAHO Mission:

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.
National Patient Safety Goals

- April 2002 Sentinel Event Advisory Group
- Six NPSSG announced July 2002
- Evidence or expert based requirements assigned to each goal
How are Goals Identified?

- JCAHO Sentinel Event database
- Advisory councils
- Identified gaps (literature, PTAC)
- Technology
Development Process

- 12 months timeline
- Issues presented to SEA group (new or revised)
- SEA group consensus on “candidates list”
- Field engagement
- Impact and applicability analysis at JCAHO
Sentinel Event Advisory Group Input
- Data from SE database
- Data from other databases
- National priority
- Based on literature review
- Existing pool of Sentinel Event recommendations

JC staff presents to the SEA Group information identifying issues for potential new NPSGs and revisions to current NPSGs

The SEA Group reaches consensus on a list of candidate NPSGs to go out for a field engagement

JC staff conducts a field engagement of the candidate NPSGs, which includes posting the candidate NPSGs on JC’s website, conducting focus groups with program advisory groups, and sending the candidate NPSGs to the PTACs.
JC staff analyzes the results from the field engagement process, including conducting an impact analysis of the NPSGs for each program and determining the applicability of the NPSGs for each accreditation program.

Based on the results of the field engagement process, JC staff identifies issues to be addressed in “Interpretative Guidelines” for the candidate NPSGs.

JC staff presents the results from the field engagement process and the Interpretative Guidelines to the SE Advisory Group.
The SEA Group reviews the results of the field review and reaches consensus on the recommendation for the NPSGs.

The SEA Group brings forth recommendations to the SSP (the chair of the SEA Group will attend the SSP meeting).

BOC approves the proposed NPSGs.
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NPSGs are announced and published

NPSGs become effective

JC staff develops interpretive Guidelines and then submits them to the Sentinel Event Advisory Group for approval

JC staff publishes Interpretive Guidelines and answers on the website

JC staff continues to develop and publish FAQs with answers as needed.
Evaluation and Data

- Accreditation Surveys
- Sentinel Event data
- Compliance Information (Perspectives)
  - 2003 1,026 total lab surveys
  - Compliance ranged from 96.4% upward
2005 Safety Goals for Laboratories

- Improve accuracy of patient identification (emphasis on 2 identifiers)
- Improve effectiveness of communication among caregivers (emphasis on critical values & timeliness)
- Reduce risk of health care associated infections
Resources

- www.jcaho.org
- Perspectives Newsletter
- Sentinel Event Alert