

Quality Advisory

TO: Member Quality Directors and Risk Managers

FROM: Diane Waldo, Director of Quality and Clinical Services

DATE: June 19, 2008

SUBJECT: Joint Commission (JC) announces 2009 National Patient Safety Goals (NPSGs)

This week, the JC issued a press release announcing the 2009 NPSGs. New goals were added for 2009 as well as revisions made to existing NPSGs. The 29-page document outlining the 2009 goals can be found online at:

http://www.jointcommission.org/PatientSafety/NationalPatientSafetyGoals/09_hap_npsgs.htm

Major revisions to the NPSGs include:

- 1) Medication reconciliation: This goal has been rewritten and includes four components:
 - Obtaining a home medication list and reconciling the list upon hospital admission;
 - Process defined for medication reconciliation around patient discharge or transfer;
 - A copy of the updated list is to be given to the patient; and
 - Process defined for medication reconciliation for those settings where medications are not commonly used or involve a short-term course, such as the emergency department or same day surgery.
- 2) Universal Protocol (Surgery): This goal has become more prescriptive regarding verification, site marking and who participates in the 'time out.'
- 3) Anticoagulation: This goal has been clarified to address medication type and specific treatment regimes.
- 4) Deteriorating patient: This goal addresses process to be used and calls out that no rapid response team is required.

New requirements include:

- 1) Patient identification: Addresses medication administration and blood transfusion specifically.
- 2) Hospital acquired infections: Addresses multi-drug resistant organisms as a whole and not specific bacteria, central line infections and surgical site infections.
- 3) Involving patients with their care: Addresses patient involvement specifically regarding acquired infections and in adverse events.

Other things you should know:

- 1) NPSG numbers will be changed: This effort is to align the NPSGs with the corresponding JC standard.
- 2) To help you prepare for compliance, Joint Commission Resources has developed a 2009 National Patient Safety Goals Resource Center. The resource center currently contains:
 - A brief overview of the goals which have been revised;
 - Link to The Joint Commission's NPSG website; and
 - Resources to help you achieve each 2009 goal – including books, audio conferences, web-based training, seminars, conferences and consulting services.

The NPSG Resource Center will be updated regularly with interviews of Joint Commission experts, tips for compliance from JCR Consultants and much more. More information can be found at : [2009 NPSG Resource Center](#)



Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems
4000 Kruse Way Place - Building 2, Suite 100
Lake Oswego, Oregon 97035
P: 503-636-2204 F: 503-636-8310 www.oahhs.org