The Joint Commission

- The Joint Commission (TJC) *(formerly known as JCAHO)*
- Voluntary process
- Continuous accreditation cycle

**TJC I.C. Standards**

- Infection Prevention & Control Standards
- **Goal:** To reduce the risk of acquisition & transmission of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs)

**Format of Standards**

- Number & description of standard
- Elements of Performance (EP) *(how facility is evaluated to determine if meeting the standard)*
- Rationale *(for some)*

**I.C. Supported by Other Departments**

- Environment of Care
- Human Resources
- Information Management
- Leadership

**TJC**

- **Mission** of TJC is to continuously improve health care for the public
- **By evaluating** healthcare organizations & inspiring them to excel in providing safe & effective care of the highest quality & value

**TJC I.C. Standards**

- Infection Prevention & Control Standards
- **Goal:** To reduce the risk of acquisition & transmission of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs)
IC.01.01.01
• The hospital identifies the individual(s) responsible for the infection prevention & control program

IC.01.01.01 Elements of Performance (EP)(4)

Qualifications
• Certification of IP’s
• Credentials for Hospital Epidemiologists
  – Adult
  – Pediatric
  – Hospital Epidemiology courses

IC.01.02.01 EP (3)
• Hospital leaders allocate needed resources for the infection prevention & control program

IC.01.02.01 Examples
Personnel & Non-personnel Resources Necessary

IC.01.03.01
• The hospital identifies risks for acquiring & transmitting infections
  EP (5)
IC.01.03.01

**Examples**

- Hospital’s risk of infection based on several factors
- Risks prioritized & reviewed at least annually
- Review needs to be by multi-disciplinary group

IC.01.04.01

**Examples**

- ↓ unprotected pathogens exposures
- ↓ risk of transmission from procedures, medical equipment & devices
- Improving hand hygiene compliance

IC.01.05.01

**Examples**

- Written description of plan, including how to evaluate it
- Policies & procedures
- Investigating outbreaks
- Communication systems
- Reporting systems

IC.01.06.01

**Examples**

- The hospital prepares to respond to an influx of potentially infectious patients

See also National Patient Safety Goal 07.01.01 re: hand hygiene
**IC.01.06.01**

**EP & Examples**

- resource identification & communication
- detailed written plan
- whether to take patients & if so, be able to for extended periods

**IC.02.01.01**

**• The hospital implements its infection prevention & control plan**

**EP (11)**

**IC.02.01.01**

**Important Points re: Infection Prevention & Control Plan**

- Relationship to first week’s reference article
- Coverage in Infection Control Certificate/MPH Courses

*from IC.02.01.01 standard*

**IC.02.02.01**

**• The hospital reduces the risk of infections associated with medical devices, equipment, & supplies**

**EP (5)**

**IC.02.02.01**

**Examples of EP**

- policies & procedures
- mechanisms for recall of improperly sterilized items
- mechanisms for identifying recalled items
- re-use issues

**IC.02.02.01. Rationale**

- Proper cleaning, disinfecting & sterilizing of medical equipment & supplies can reduce the risk of infection.

*Tabletop sterilizer*

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/c4/Surgical_instruments_02.JPG/1258px-Surgical_instruments_02.JPG
**IC.02.03.01**

- The hospital works to **prevent the transmission** of infectious disease among patients, licensed independent practitioners & staff.

**Examples**

- Protect patients & employees from infectious exposures
- Treat them if such exposures occur

**IC.02.04.01**

- The hospital offers **vaccination against influenza** to licensed independent practitioners & staff.

**EP Examples**

- Accessible sites
- Identifying reasons for poor vaccination
- Working to improve poor vaccination rates

**IC.03.01.01**

- The hospital evaluates the **effectiveness** of its infection prevention & control plan

**Summary**

- TJC mission
- TJC standards for Infection Prevention & Control
- Elements of performance, rationale & examples