



Excited about Joint Commission helpful, easy BoosterPaks

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Joint Commission is an independent, nonprofit group that accredits and certifies 21,000 health-related businesses in the US. Their mission "To continuously improve health care for the public in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value". Accreditation is granted to behavioral health, home health, hospitals, nursing homes, surgery centers, and physician offices. Certification is granted to services found within or associated with an organization. For instance, a Joint Commission accredited hospital may have certified services in cardiology. These programs can be in the hospital, or independent. The Gold Seal is known as a mark of excellence that indicates a company's dedication to patient safety and quality health care.

I have been on a JCAHO prep committee. We knew it was key to make policy adherence second nature within the organization at all times. An area of interest, is how policy is implemented for each Standard. There are Universal Standards, but many ways each Standard is addressed at different facilities. In December I read of Standards BoosterPaks, searchable documents that provide detailed information about standards that have been associated with a high volume of inquiries or non-compliance scores. They were established to address consistency of standard interpretation for accredited organizations and Joint Commission employees.

Legal Nurse Consultants (LNCs) rely on Policies, Procedures and Standards to evaluate delivery of health care. These BoosterPaks are beneficial to LNCs in two ways, it will make evaluation of the Standard easier, and they are pointing out weak areas commonly found by Joint Commission. Professional and fastidious search of health-related literature is essential to a positive trial outcome. These BoosterPaks may be a valuable tool.

Don't risk missing a crucial piece of evidence in the medical records. Contact Krug Consulting for your next medically related case. 1 (844) LNC-KRUG

Krug Consulting was founded by Sandra Krug, RRT, CRNA
Legal Nurse Consultant.

AREAS OF PRACTICE:
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Some of the Joint Commission BoosterPaks in use:

- High-Level Disinfection (HLD) and Sterilization ***NEW***
The goal of the High-Level Disinfection (HLD) and Sterilization BoosterPak is to ensure practices are carried out following regulatory standards and evidence-based guidelines for HLD and sterilization in order to minimize the potential risk of infection transmission to patients. For your convenience the content is provided as a single PDF and is also provided as separate documents per individual sections for easy reference of those sections.
- Home Oxygen Safety
- Credentialing & Privileging in Non-Hospital Settings
- Waived Testing
- Use of Restraint and Seclusion for Organizations Using Joint Commission Accreditation for Deemed Status
- Management of Hazardous Waste in Health Care Facilities
- Environment of Care
- Sample Collection
- Suicide Risk
- Focused Professional Practice Evaluation/Ongoing Professional Practice Evaluation (FPPE/OPPE)

If Joint Commission notes these as areas with recurrent problems, They may be valuable clues during case analysis. The LNC and the legal team may use this list to focus on an issue that may have occurred during the plaintiffs care. Defense may want to use the BoosterPak to show how the Standard was addressed.

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