

Beginnings: 1910-1986

Ernest Codman, MD, proposes the standardization. American College of Surgeons (ACS) is founded and ACS objective.

of Hospitals (JCAH) is created as an independent, not-for-profit organization in Chicago, Illinois.

Begin accrediting psychiatric facilities, substance abuse programs and community mental health programs. The Social Security Act is amended to require that the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services validate JCAH findings.

*Congress passes the Social Security Amendments of 1965 with a provision that hospitals accredited
be in
compliance with most Medicare Conditions of Participation for hospitals and can participate in Medicare and Medicaid programs.*

Expansion: 1987-1998

The name changes to the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) to reflect an expanded scope of activities. The Agenda for Change launches, placing emphasis of the accreditation process on actual organization performance.

The JCAHO headquarters and conference center opens in Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois, about 20 miles west of downtown Chicago, where previous headquarters was located, in the John Hancock Center.

The first organization-specific performance reports are released to the public. Joint Commission International (JCI) is formed to provide education and consulting to international clients. Begin accrediting freestanding laboratories.

The revised Sentinel Event Policy promotes self-reporting of medical errors and encourages close examination of the root causes of these events. Joint Commission Resources, Inc., (JCR) replaces QHR.

Begin developing the Indicator Measurement System®, an indicator-based performance monitoring system. Begin accrediting home care and managed care organizations.

A new standard requires accredited hospitals to have a policy prohibiting smoking. The number and nature of confirmed substantive complaints filed against accredited organizations and the existence of type I recommendations becomes public information.

Establish the Sentinel Event Policy. The Joint Commission website launches. ORYX®: The Next Evolution in Accreditation launches. Quality Check® becomes available on the Joint Commission website.

Growth: 1999-2009

The revised mission statement explicitly references patient safety. A toll-free hotline is established to encourage patients, their families, caregivers, and others to share concerns regarding care quality issues at accredited organizations.

Specialization: 2010-2019

Begin advanced certification for

Recognition: 2020-2022

In March, suspend all regular on-site surveys of hospitals and other health care organizations to allow organizations and professionals to focus on caring for patients with COVID-19.

Begin accrediting assisted living organizations. Launch a Maternal Levels of Care Verification program with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists to help reduce maternal mortality and morbidity in the U.S.

Association to help improve quality and safety in dementia care in nursing, skilled nursing, and assisted living facilities.

Join the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Sync for Social Needs coalition, committing to a role in ending hunger and reducing diet-related disease in the United States by 2030.

**The Bernard J. Tyson
National Award for
Excellence in Pursuit
of Healthcare Equity**

Establish the Bernard J. Tyson National Award for Excellence in Pursuit of Healthcare Equity with Kaiser Permanente to recognize organizations and their partners that lead initiatives that achieve a measurable, sustained reduction in health care disparities.

Establish the Leading Laboratories Recognition Program with the American Society for Clinical Pathology to promote laboratory leadership and elevate the visibility and collaborative work of the medical laboratory team.

With American Heart Association, launch Comprehensive Heart Attack Center certification program. Join the Biden Health Sector Climate Pledge to reduce carbon contributions emanating from the healthcare sector.

Progression: 2022-2023

*In collaboration with American
College of Obstetricians and*