

Joint Commission Standards 2010*

Joint Commission guidelines are not only used to determine accreditation but also commonly influence the development of regulations from other organizations.

EC: Action based on preconstruction risk assessment is now required

IC: Written plan for handling influx of infectious patients over extended period of time required

EM: One mandatory emergency response exercise should assume patient influx and no community support

Environment of Care (EC) 02.06.05 (points 2 & 3)

2. When planning for demolition, construction, or renovation, the hospital conducts a preconstruction risk assessment for air quality requirements, infection control, utility requirements, noise, vibration, and other hazards that affect care, treatment and services.

3. The hospital takes action based on its assessment to minimize risks during demolition, construction, or renovation.

Infection Prevention and Control (IC) 01.06.01 (points 4 & 5)

4. The hospital describes, in writing, how it will respond to an influx of potentially infectious patients.

5. If the hospital decided to accept an influx of potentially infectious patients, then the hospital describes in writing its methods for managing these patients over an extended period of time.

Emergency Management (EM) 03.01.03 (Points 1,2 & 3)

1. As an emergency response exercise, the hospital activates its Emergency Operations Plan twice a year at each site included in the plan.

2. For each site of the hospital that offers emergency services or is a community-designated disaster receiving station, at least one of the hospital's two emergency response exercises includes an influx of simulated patients.

Note 1: Tabletop sessions, though useful, cannot serve for this portion of the exercise.

3. For each site of the hospital that offers emergency services or is a community designated disaster receiving station, at least one of the hospital's two emergency response exercises includes an escalating event in which the local community is unable to support the hospital.

Note 1: This portion of the emergency response exercise can be conducted separately or in conjunction with EM 03.01.03, EPs 2 and 4

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*The abridged excerpts are from the Joint Commission 2010 Accreditation Requirements