

Survey Process Changes

Most of the survey activities have been revised to focus on assessment of performance and implementation of the standards rather than reviewing documents. The goal is to ensure that the CBAHI standards are integrated into the daily practices of the hospital. Beside conferences, interviews, and review of documents, the major part of the survey visit will be allocated for the evaluation of implementation of standards and the performance of the different processes within the hospital.

Standards Changes

The 3rd edition of CBAHI hospital standards encompasses several new and revised standards for hospitals to advance quality care and patient safety. While the changes range from minimal adjustments in some areas to entirely new content in others, this edition maintains focus on quality care and patient safety. The standards were updated with four goals in mind:

- Develop new standards related to patient safety;
- Refine existing standards;
- Improve the clarity and applicability of standards; and
- Update the terminology to reflect current contexts.

No matter how robust was the methodology used in building the standards, there will be always a room for improvement. Therefore, for all comments and remarks on a standard, CBAHI website includes an electronic form that allows hospitals, experts, and other interested parties to comment on current standards. The form allows for constant stakeholder feedback on the standards. This is part of several other CBAHI's initiatives to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its internal processes, including standards development, so as to better meet needs and expectations of our partners.

Essential Safety Requirements

Adverse events often result in a longer hospital stay, higher costs, poorer outcomes, or even death. Patient safety has been conceptualized as the avoidance, prevention and amelioration of adverse outcomes or injuries stemming from the processes of health care. Adverse events and medical errors are becoming major challenges facing health authorities and accreditation agencies almost everywhere in the world. The occurrence of several serious incidents in accredited hospitals, some of which had earned a high accreditation rating whether by CBAHI or other international accrediting organizations, made it clear to CBAHI that compliance with the standards did not guarantee a safe patient environment. Different strategies and tools have been introduced in this manual to enhance patient safety and minimize the risk of adverse events. Having a patient safety program and a system for incidents reporting are just few examples, but also the concept of Essential Safety Requirements (ESRs) that is included in this manual.

A selected group of standards have been assigned as Essential Safety Requirements indicated in this manual with the icon



Essential Safety Requirements are selected based on their level of risk on patients: proximity of risk, probability of harm, severity of harm, and number of patients at risk. As the name indicates, Essential Safety Requirements