

Rationale for APR.02.00

JCI requires each hospital seeking accreditation or already accredited to engage in the accreditation process with honesty, integrity, and transparency. This type of engagement in the accreditation process is evident by providing complete and accurate information during all phases of the three-year cycle of the accreditation process.

Hospitals provide information to JCI in any of the following ways:

- Verbally
- Direct observation by, or in an interview or any other type of communication with, a JCI employee
- Electronic or hard-copy documents submitted to JCI or through a third party, such as the media, or a government report

For the purpose of this requirement, *falsification of information* is defined as the fabrication, in whole or in part, of any information provided by an applicant or accredited organization to JCI. Falsification may include redrafting, reformatting, or deleting document content or submitting false information, reports, data, or other materials.

Consequences of Noncompliance with APR.02.00

If JCI is reasonably convinced that the hospital has submitted inaccurate or falsified information to JCI or has presented inaccurate or falsified information to surveyors, the hospital may be required to undergo a for-cause survey. Failure to resolve this issue in a timely manner or at the time of the for-cause survey may result in Denial of Accreditation.

Measurable Elements of APR.02.00

1. The hospital provides accurate and complete information throughout the accreditation process. (*See also APR.01.00, ME 1*)

Requirement APR.03.00

The hospital reports any changes in the information provided in the application for accreditation and any changes made between surveys.

Rationale for APR.03.00

JCI collects core information regarding each hospital's profile in its E-App to understand ownership, licensure, scope and volume of patient services, and types of patient care facilities, among other factors. When any of these factors change, JCI must evaluate the change to determine if the change is within or outside of the scope of a planned initial survey or the scope of a current accreditation award.

Thus, the hospital notifies JCI within 30 days of the effective date of the change for the following:

- A change in the organization's ownership
- Requesting to change hospital accreditation to academic medical center accreditation
- A merger or acquisition; the organization has merged with, consolidated with, or acquired an unaccredited site, service, or program for which there are applicable JCI standards.
- The revocation or restriction of operational licenses or permits, any limitations or closure of patient care services, any sanctions of professional or other staff, or other actions under laws and regulations brought by relevant health authorities
- New biomedical equipment for patient care that are used to expand the types and volume of patient care services 25% or more than was stated in the most recent E-App
- Changes in use of patient care buildings, construction of new or expansion of patient care buildings, or the occupation of buildings that are used to expand the types and volume of patient care services 25% or more than was stated in the most recent E-App, or was not reported as a patient care location, or was not included in the scope of the previous accreditation survey

- Temporary cessation of services and/or significant reduction of patient care services/volume due to extenuating circumstances
- Intentional expansion of the organization's capacity to provide services in the absence of new, renovated, or expanded facilities by 25% or greater, as measured by patient volume, scope of services, or other relevant measures
- The addition of one or more types of health care services (for example, addition of a dialysis unit)
- Implementation of a higher level of service (for example, adding inpatient invasive diagnostic cardiology when originally providing only outpatient cardiac rehabilitation)

JCI does not automatically extend accreditation to new services and facilities. Based on the change, JCI may request additional information or documents; for example, policies, floor plans, fire safety plan, credentials of new staff for a new service. When JCI is unable to fully evaluate the changes with the additional information or documents provided, an extension survey may be necessary for all or a portion of the hospital again or for the first time in the case of new facilities or services.

Consequences of Noncompliance with APR.03.00

If the hospital does not provide notification to JCI within 30 days of the effective date of any change(s), the hospital may be denied accreditation.

Measurable Elements of APR.03.00

1. ⑩ The hospital reports within 30 days of the effective date of any change(s) in the hospital's profile (electronic database) or information provided to JCI via the E-App before and between surveys.

Requirement APR.04.00

The hospital permits the performance of a survey at JCI's discretion.

Rationale for APR.04.00

Achieving JCI accreditation implies to the public, governmental agencies, and payment sources, among others, that the hospital is in compliance with JCI standards and accreditation policies at all times. Thus, it is important that JCI has the right to enter all or any portion of the hospital on an announced or unannounced basis to confirm standards and accreditation policy compliance and/or evaluate patient safety and quality concerns at any time during all phases of accreditation. Surveyors will always present an official letter of introduction and at least one other form of identification as a JCI representative when the visit is unannounced.

Consequences of Noncompliance with APR.04.00

JCI will deny or withdraw the accreditation of a hospital that refuses or limits access to authorized JCI staff to perform an evaluation.

Measurable Elements of APR.04.00

1. The hospital permits evaluations of standards and policy compliance or verification of quality and safety concerns, reports, or regulatory authority sanctions at the discretion of JCI.

Requirement APR.05.00

The hospital allows JCI to request (from the hospital or outside agency) and review an original or authenticated copy of the results and reports of external evaluations from publicly recognized bodies.