Joint Commission names toughest standards for 2005

The following standards had the highest noncompliance rates last year, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations reports.

**Hospitals**

IM.3.10. Information management. 41%
MM.2.29. Medications properly and safely stored. 37%
PC.13.20. Operative or other procedures and/or administration of moderate or deep sedation or anesthesia are planned. 30%
EC.5.20. Environment of care complies with Life Safety Code. 21%
MM.3.20. Medication orders written clearly and transcribed accurately. 20%
IM.6.50. Designated personnel accept and transcribe verbal orders from authorized individuals. 17%
PC.8.10. Patient assessed and treated for pain. 15%
IM.6.10. Complete and accurate medical record for every patient treated. 15%
PC.1.120. Hospital defines time frame for initial assessment. 13%
LD.3.90. Leaders develop and implement policies for care, treatment, and services. 13%

**Ambulatory care**

PL.3.20. A proactive program for identifying and reducing adverse events and safety risks is defined and implemented. 29%
HR.4.10. Process for ensuring competence of independent practitioners. 25%
MM.2.20. Medications properly and safely stored. 20%
IM.3.10. Information management. 20%
EC.4.10. Emergency management. 17%
PC.13.20. Operative or other procedures and/or administration of moderate or deep sedation or anesthesia are planned. 17%
PL.2.10. Data systematically aggregated and analyzed. 15%
PC.16.10. Policies and procedures for use of waived test results. 15%
PC.8.10. Pain assessed in all patients. 15%
HR.4.50. Clinical privileges and appointments reviewed and revised at least every 2 years. 14%  

*Source: Joint Commission Perspectives, May 2006.*