

Joint Commission Launches New Outcomes-Driven Certifications

Healthcare Law Update

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On March 30, 2026, The Joint Commission [announced](#) the launch of a new suite of outcomes-driven certifications for hospitals and other healthcare organizations. According to the announcement, the first two certifications will focus on perinatal care and cardiac surgeries and procedures, clinical areas identified as high priority due to their significant impact on patient outcomes and community health. These new certifications build on existing programs by incorporating outcomes-based performance measures, benchmarking, and structured learning collaboratives. Unlike traditional certification models that primarily emphasize compliance with process-based standards, the outcomes-driven approach is designed to recognize organizations that demonstrate consistently strong clinical results. According to The Joint Commission, the new certifications aim to support provider improvement through data-driven insights while offering patients, purchasers, and payers more transparent and meaningful indicators of quality based on actual outcomes. This shift signals a broader move toward value-based evaluation in accreditation, with an increased focus on measurable results rather than process alone.

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