

OASIS Alert

Industry Notes: Accrediting Body Whittles Home Care Requirements

Home health agencies accredited by the **Joint Commission** have nine fewer requirements to worry about. The accrediting body formerly known as JCAHO has deleted nine Elements of Performance (EPs) which had not been scored on survey in four years, it says. "Staff analysis and vetting with Joint Commission advisory groups determined that some EPs either were redundant to other requirements or were not directly related to outcomes of care, treatment, or services in the home care environment," the Joint Commission says.

The deleted EPs are online at www.jointcommission.org/assets/1/18/JCP0114_9_Req_Deleted_OME.pdf.

In response to CMS's fall 2013 review of its application for deeming authority for accredited home care organizations, the Commission also revised several standards and elements of performance (EPs), it says.

For example: In Standard RI.01.07.01 (under Rights and Responsibilities of the Individual), the Commission now spells out that "the patient also has the right to lodge complaints on the hotline concerning the implementation of the advance directives requirements."

See all the changes at www.jointcommission.org/assets/1/18/HomeHealthDeeming_OME_March2014.pdf.