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QUESTION

by Answerbag Staff on February 7th, 2010



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GREAT ANSWER

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by Cynthia Wolfe Boynton on February 7th, 2010



CAHO is an acronym for the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. In 2006, this independent, non-profit shortened its name to the Joint Commission.

Role

In partnership with the U.S. government and health care leaders such as the American Medical Association, the Joint Commission surveys and accredits medical facilities with the goal of continuously improving patient safety and care.

Focus

Joint Commission surveyors visit hospitals, long-term care facilities, behavioral health centers, home care organizations and similar facilities at least once every three years to assess safety, treatment and performance levels that directly influence patient outcomes.

Scope

More than 17,000 U.S. healthcare organizations either have, or are seeking, Joint Commission accreditation, which is recognized internationally as a primary symbol of medical excellence.

Partners

To develop its standards, the Joint Commission's 29-member board of top medical practitioners, experts and ethicists work with leading healthcare organizations like the American College of Physicians, American College of Surgeons, American Dental Association and American Hospital Association.

History

With offices in Illinois and Washington, the Joint Commission is the oldest and largest healthcare accrediting agency in the United States.

Source:

[The Joint Commission](#)

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