

COVID 10 Wahiner for I shoretows Accreditation.

Q&A With The Joint Commission

August 17, 2021

Panel

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Recovery and The Joint Commission

Your questions

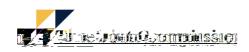
You have had a number of questions about our return to survey:

How or when will we get a survey?

What will that survey process look like, any differences?

What type of instruction have you provided your surveyors?

What will the surveyors focus on?



When and how will survey activity resume?

Survey activity continues and we have transitioned from off-site surveys back to onsite surveys.

Counties are opening up across the US as ÍGoÎ counties or low risk counties. We continue to monitor counties closely going forward as COVID rates can change

Low risk criteria

Number of COVID-19 cases are lower and less impact to organizations the # cases/thousand population and new cases within the county remain low

Determination that our staff can travel to that area safely and find appropriate accommodations.

For Lab surveys, effective March 15, the AE will no longer contact organizations regarding the scheduling of an on-site event. Organizations should monitor the Notification of Scheduled Events section of the Joint Commission Connect page for notification.

We are aware that surveys are past their due dates, CMS is also aware Ë we will conduct those surveys when we are able to do so.

We will prioritize initials and past due organizations.

What instructions have been provided to our field staff?

Do not travel if you are sick

Do not travel if you have been in close contact with known or suspected COVID-19 patients

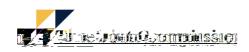
When traveling they are required to wear a mask/face covering

Required to wear a mask on survey and follow the organizations' guidelines. The organization will provide the PPE to the surveyor as required by their policy.

Practice physical distancing

Practice good hand hygiene

Follow CDC guidelines



What has changed about the on-site survey process?

The survey process and its components will remain the same however here are some guidelines for the survey:

Practicing safe social distancing: Limit the number of individuals in group sessions, minimize the number of staff who accompany a surveyor during tracer activities. Drive in separate vehicles to off site visits. Utilize technology when possible.

Wearing personal protective equipment: The surveyors are required to wear face masks and we are asking that organizations provide masks and/or other PPE to surveyors based on the organization policy.



What has changed about the on-site survey process?

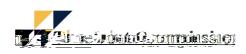
The survey process and its components will remain the same however here are some guidelines for the survey:

Utilization of enhanced technology: The goal is to maximize technology to support social distancing. This may be accomplished through screen sharing, or projection to review EMR with the organization IT platform.

Surveyors will NOT enter at risk or confirmed COVID-19 rooms.

Surveyor will have limited physical review of high-risk procedures

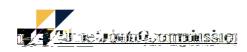
Surveyor can consider using a simulation and/or distant review of certain activities/procedures.



What will be the focus of survey activities?

During the opening conference, the surveyor will have a discussion with you about the impact of the current pandemic and your organization response.

We will discuss both Infection Control and Emergency Management.



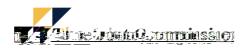
Additional Questions

For onsite surveys, should staff/surveyors be vaccinated?

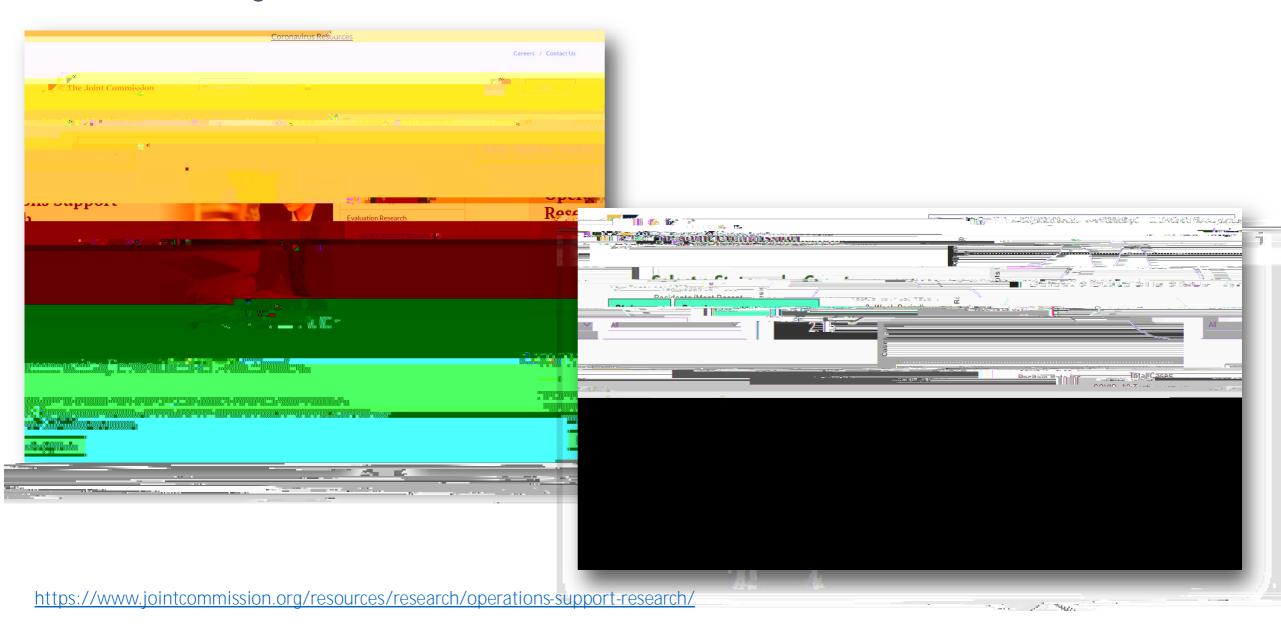
It is not a requirement that staff/surveyors be vaccinated, although it is encouraged.

Many surveyors are vaccinated and can travel to additional counties.





Community Prevalence Dashboard



Laboratorians needed

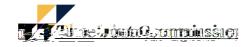
We are looking for highly experienced, dynamic leaders in a variety of FTE statuses

We are hiring:

medical technicians

pathologists

If you are interested, please go to https://www.jointcommission.org/careers/



Do you have any updates on surveys that were late due to COVID --will there be an opportunity to have an early survey to get back to our original survey window?

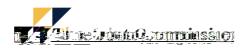




Is there a guideline for Joint Commission accredited labs to submit positive COVID specimens to the CDC (NS3) during this pandemic as a means of sequencing and identifying mutations and Í breakthroughí cases?

Resource:





What are the validation requirements for EUA tests?

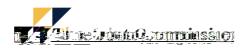


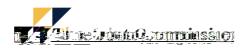
Has there been an assigned date for EUA expirations for BD Veritor or Abbott BinaxNOW methods?

Resource:

https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/emergency-use-authorizations-medical-devices/historical-information-about-device-emergency-use-authorizations#ivd







Infection Control Practices

What evidence of compliance with reporting COVID results to fed/state/local authorities will The Joint Commission be looking for on survey?

Can you explain the laboratory's role in reporting COVID-19 results? If the lab reports it to their health department, do they need to report it to HHS? If the lab processes the sample but then sends it to another lab, who reports the COVID result?



Discuss the wearing of masks outside the hospital.

Resources:

CDC Your Guide to Masks (Updated August 13, 2021) https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html

CDC COVID Integrated View (updated weekly Ë last update August 15, 2021) https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view



What documentation is expected if any, as it relates to visitor screening?

Resource:

OSHA COVID-19 Healthcare Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) (effective July 6, 2021) https://www.osha.gov/coronavirus/ets







Resources

COVID Resources

- https://www.jointcommission.org/covid-19/

Standards Interpretation

- https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/standardfaqs/



Thank You

We support your efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and hope to provide helpful resources







