



Pennsylvania Association for
HEALTHCARE QUALITY

Newsletter: 2nd Quarter 2019

**HAPPY SUMMER and GREETINGS
from the PAHQ EXECUTIVE TEAM**

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**SAVE THE DATE:
Workplace Violence Prevention**

**Joint Webinar between the
Philadelphia Area Society for
Healthcare Risk Management
(PASHRM) & Pennsylvania
Association for Healthcare
Quality (PAHQ) on
Thursday, **September 26, 2019**
12:00 PM-1:00 PM.**

PAHQ News From the Web

NAHQ Latest Publication. [HQ Solutions: Resources for the Healthcare Quality Professional \(4h Ed.\)](#). May 15, 2019. Written by healthcare quality experts and applicable to all practice settings, this vital resource offers healthcare quality professionals the theoretical and practical basis for safe, reliable, cost-effective care, including the use of state-of-the-art tools for measuring, monitoring, selecting, and managing data.

In case you didn't see it! [NAHQ Next 2019 Conference](#). September 16-18, 2019 in Phoenix, AZ at

the Phoenix Convention Center. Over 75 sessions featuring innovative approaches to deliver the very latest in healthcare quality practice. The program offers different types of credit including CPHQ CE, nursing contact hours, and NEW THIS YEAR – ACHE hours. Cost: \$899 for members and \$1,499 for non-members. There is also a virtual attendance option at a reduced rate.

The CDC – Did you know that the CDC electronically publishes a weekly morbidity and mortality report? The [CDC's MMWR](#) is available for free once you register. The [June 7, 2019 sample](#) contains information and research on Out-of-pocket expenditures and financial hardship among cancer survivors, Receipt of breast milk by gestational age, Community assessments for Mosquito prevention and control experiences in U.S. Virgin Islands, and Progress towards measles elimination (Pakistan)

Tuberculin Test Shortage. The CDC says to expect a 3-10 month national shortage of Aplisol tests. [CDC Recommendations for Patient Care and Public Health Practice](#). The expected shortage could occur before November 2019.

Quality Measures. [The Joint Commission offers accredited hospitals real-time quality metrics](#). May 14, 2019. The new 2019 direct data submission platform empowers accredited hospitals with continuous access to quality measure results for real-time performance improvement. The new program will provide hospitals with year-round, real-time access to quality measures.

Attention Medical Staff Office. [The joint Commission offers Physicians and PAs to Use Quality Improvement Tools and Earn Credits](#). Center for Transforming

Healthcare. May 14, 2019. The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare and the American Board of Medical Specialties are collaborating to provide a mechanism where ABMS board certified physicians may use the Center's Targeted Solutions Tools to address their institution's quality and safety challenges, and also earn Improvement in Medical Practice credit for their continuing certification requirements.

Legislative & Regulatory

1. **Oxygen Cylinders** – New Joint Commission FAQ on Storage Management. June 5, 2019. Applies to HAP, AHC, CAH, NCC, and Hospice. Follow the above link to the Hospital requirements. The latest Joint Commission E-Alert contains the links for the other manuals. Essentially, empty cylinders are to be segregated from all other cylinders that are intended for patient care use.
2. **Fluoroscopy – New Joint Commission Requirement**. New Fluoroscopy Requirements. May 17, 2019. The Joint Commission has developed a new requirement for office-based surgery practices that provide fluoroscopy imaging. Effective January 1, 2020.
3. **Drug Diversion Advisory**. Joint Commission issues Quick Safety advisory on drug diversion and impaired health care workers **Apr 16, 2019**. A new advisory from The Joint Commission, encourages health care organizations to establish a comprehensive controlled substances diversion prevention program to help detect and prevent drug diversion. The advisory also reviews patterns and trends that indicate potential diversion such as when controlled substances are removed with no doctor's order, product containers are compromised, verbal orders for controlled substances are created but not verified by the prescriber, prescription pads are forged, and much more.