

## What does JCAHO accreditation of my hospital mean to me?

Because its standards are regarded as the most rigorous in the industry, hospitals that choose to be evaluated by JCAHO are therefore committed to providing the highest level of quality care to their patients. JCAHO's gold seal of approval is a clear sign that the accredited organization has demonstrated compliance to the most stringent standards of performance.

## How can I find out how well a hospital did on their accreditation survey or if it is accredited?

A list of JCAHO accredited hospitals and their survey results are posted in the "Quality Check"™ section of the JCAHO website at [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org). You can also call JCAHO's Customer Service Department directly at 630-792-5800 for additional information.

*Look for the JCAHO  
gold seal of approval  
when selecting your hospital.*

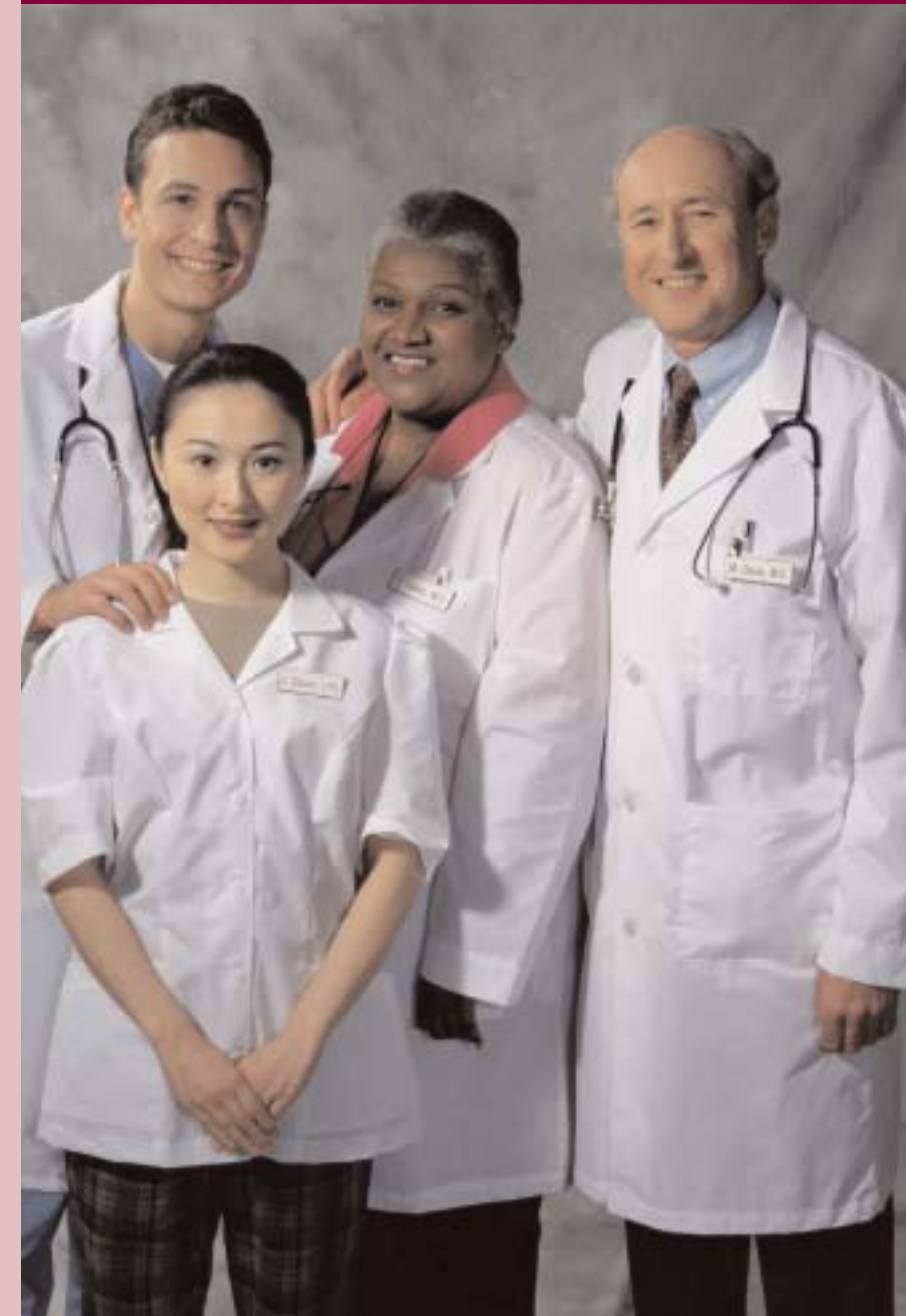


# JCAHO

*Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations*

*Setting the Standard for Quality in Health Care*

## The Joint Commission: Assessing the Quality of Care in *Hospitals*



## Who is the Joint Commission?

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) is an independent, not-for-profit organization established over 50 years ago. JCAHO is the world leader in evaluating the quality and safety of care delivered in over 17,000 health care organizations across the country—from hospitals to home care providers, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, outpatient clinics, behavioral health centers, critical access hospitals and health care networks.

JCAHO is governed by a board that includes physicians, nurses, medical directors, and consumers. JCAHO sets the standards by which health care quality is measured in America and around the world.



## How does a hospital become JCAHO accredited?

To maintain and earn accreditation, a hospital undergoes an extensive on-site review by a select team of JCAHO professionals such as administrators, physicians, and nurses at least once every three years. The purpose of the review is to evaluate the hospital's performance in areas that affect patient care. Through an assessment of a hospital's processes and personal visits with its patients and staff, the hospital is evaluated and scored. Accreditation may then be awarded based on how well the hospital met JCAHO standards.