



CORRECTION: Health Care Staffing Services Certification Criticality Designations

This article corrects erroneous criticality* (“Tier”) designations for several elements of performance (EPs) in the 2009 *Health Care Staffing Services Certification Manual*, effective immediately.

* **Criticality** *The immediacy of risk to patient safety or quality of care as a result of noncompliance with a Joint Commission requirement.*

† “Tier 4” indicates **Indirect Impact Requirements**. These requirements are typically applied to planning and evaluation of care processes; the risk to patient safety increases if these requirements are not resolved over time.

‡ “Tier 2” (▲) indicates that **Situational Decision Rules** apply. Based on specific situations at the time of an on-site review, some issues will generate a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for Conditional or Preliminary Denial of Certification.

§ “Tier 3” (△) indicates **Direct Impact Requirements**. These requirements are based on the implementation of care processes that are likely to create an immediate risk to patient safety or quality of care if they are not adhered to.

The following requirements were incorrectly labeled as “Tier 4”† (Indirect Impact Requirements); the correct designation is “Tier 2”‡ (Situational Decision Rules) or “Tier 3”§ (Direct Impact Requirements), as indicated:

- From the “Certification Participation Requirements” (CPR) Chapter:
 - CPR 3, EP 1—“Tier 2” ▲
 - CPR 7, EP 1—“Tier 2” ▲
 - CPR 9, EP 1—“Tier 2” ▲
 - CPR 12, EP 1—“Tier 2” ▲
- From the “Human Resources Management” (HR) Chapter:
 - HR.1, EP 1—“Tier 2” △
 - HR.2, EP 2—“Tier 3” △
 - HR.2, EP 3—“Tier 3” △

