

Medication Management and Safety Advisory Services

Home Infusion Pharmacies and Specialty Pharmacies



We understand your world is rapidly changing. The home infusion market is growing at an annual rate of 15%¹, due to its advantage in providing a means of continuing infusion therapy in a lower cost setting versus extending hospital stays. In addition, home infusion affords a means of providing infusion therapies to patients with infections or chronic disease more effectively than ever before². Specialty pharmaceuticals will increasingly be a larger portion of total medication purchase growth. In 2016, nearly 50% of larger health systems (and over 10% of all hospitals) owned a specialty pharmacy³.

New requirements for medication compounding and specialty pharmacies, Medicare reimbursement changes, and the need to be accredited by an approved accrediting organization may be a few of the issues keeping you up at night.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has updated its Home Health Final Payment Rule for providers of home infusion therapy services. Beginning January 1, 2021, these providers must have obtained accreditation by a CMS-approved accrediting organization to be eligible for Medicare reimbursement. The Joint Commission has been awarded deeming authority for home infusion therapy by CMS and JCR consultants can help hospitals prepare for Medicare Certification for Home Infusion Therapy services.

Joint Commission Resources' (JCR) team of medication safety professionals have decades of hands-on experience in a variety of health care settings with expertise across many topics including infusion therapy, sterile compounding, equipment management, and pharmaceutical care of the home patient.

The JCR team can provide a focused assessment of your operations, which mimics the Joint Commission survey process, to help you recognize points of process breakdown, evaluate the root cause, and create actionable steps for meeting requirements and improving performance.

After the assessment has been completed, you will receive an in-depth review sources of recommendations:

- **Action Plan:** A comprehensive report that identifies focus areas to help you determine your next steps. The action plan is findings-specific related to regulatory compliance. For example, if gaps are identified in the compliance with USP Chapter <797> requirements, suggestions will be provided to help you as you work on closing those gaps.
- **Executive Summary:** An overview of the key strengths and challenges that can be shared with leadership.
- **SAFER™ Matrix Report:** A SAFER Matrix is provided to the organization that presents each of the standards/Elements of Performance (EP) as they relate to their impact on patient safety. Strategies for your organization to consider on its journey to compliance are discussed at the time of the mock survey.

Visit jcrinc.com/consulting or call 630.268.7400 to speak to an account manager about our advisory services for home infusion pharmacies and specialty pharmacies.

References

1. National Association of Independent Retail Druggists (NAIRD) in Association with National Home Infusion Association (NHIA)
2. US Home Infusion Therapy Market Analysis, Growth, Trends and Forecast 2018-2023, published July 17, 2019 (<https://www.marketwatch.com/press-release/us-home-infusion-therapy-market-analysis-growth-trends-forecast-2018-2023-2019-07-17>) accessed 3.12.20
3. 2016-17 Economic Report on Pharmaceutical Wholesalers and Specialty Distributors, by the Drug Channels Institute

The use of Joint Commission Resources (JCR) advisory services is not necessary to obtain a Joint Commission Accreditation award, nor does it influence the granting of such award. JCR is an expert resource for health care organizations, providing advisory services, software, educational services and publications to assist in improving quality and safety and to help in meeting the accreditation standards of The Joint Commission. JCR provides advisory services independently from The Joint Commission and in a fully confidential manner.