

Faculty Biography

Edward Pollak, M.D.

**Medical Director and Patient Safety Officer
Division of Healthcare Improvement
The Joint Commission**

Ed Pollak, M.D., a practicing anesthesiologist and Fellow of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, is medical director and patient safety officer for the Division of Healthcare Improvement at The Joint Commission. In this role, he is responsible for promoting The Joint Commission's performance improvement and patient safety initiatives. Dr. Pollak provides oversight and physician leadership to the Division of Healthcare Improvement and leads the response to reported patient safety incidents at accredited and certified health care organizations.

A surveyor of record, Dr. Pollak is a member of the Accreditation Council. He also serves on working groups which look at areas of focus for The Joint Commission's patient safety efforts and ongoing issues related to interpretation of current standards. He directs the patient safety fellowship and leads physician patient safety education throughout the organization. Dr. Pollak recently led a webinar on workplace violence, is a member of the Sentinel Event Alert writing group, and frequently speaks on physician engagement, safety culture, and burnout.

Prior to coming to The Joint Commission, Dr. Pollak was patient safety officer at William Beaumont Hospital Royal Oak where he helped lead the hospital to consistent top performance in patient safety and quality by championing a robust safety culture. A board certified anesthesiologist, he served as vice chief of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine at William Beaumont Hospital Royal Oak.

Dr. Pollak received his medical degree from the University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, Michigan, and completed his residency in anesthesiology at the University of Michigan Medical Center. In addition to his medical background, Dr. Pollak holds a master's degree in philosophy from Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he wrote his thesis on ethics.