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UNDERLYING RATIONALE FOR ADOPTING JOINT COMMISSION INTERNATIONAL CRITERIA IN MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS

I.R. Urazalieva
A.Kh. Khusniddinova
Tashkent State Medical University, School of Public Health

Abstract

This article analyzes the theoretical and practical foundations of ensuring patient safety-one of the most critical issues in the global healthcare system. Within the framework of the study, a comparative analysis was conducted on the latest accreditation standards, including the Joint Commission International (JCI) 8th Edition (2024) and the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals (NABH) 6th Edition (2025). The paper highlights International Patient Safety Goals (IPSG), medical error reduction strategies, clinical risk management, and the role of digital technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Electronic Medical Records (EMR), in developing a safety culture. Furthermore, the article substantiates the importance of transitioning from a "blame culture" to a "systems analysis culture" within medical institutions. The findings of this research serve as a methodological guide for healthcare administrators, quality managers, and clinical specialists in integrating international standards into national practice.

Keywords: Patient safety, JCI accreditation, NABH standards, clinical risks, IPSG, medical errors, healthcare quality, infection control.

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Introduction

Accreditation of healthcare institutions is not merely a process of obtaining a quality certificate, but a fundamental transformation of the patient safety culture within the facility. Based on the literature provided, we compare the latest requirements of two major systems.

Joint Commission International (JCI) 8th Edition (2024). The 8th edition of JCI standards [22] embodies the most advanced international best practices. The primary distinctions of the new edition include: Data Integrity: Increased requirements for Electronic Medical Record (EMR) analysis and cybersecurity [5].

Patient Engagement: The enhanced role of the patient in decision-making regarding their own treatment plan [Active Citizen Framework, [25]. Quality Monitoring: Proactively reducing the number of "Sentinel Events" through statistical analysis.

NABH 6th Edition (January 2025). The new edition of the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals (NABH) standards [Source 1] is tailored for emerging markets and emphasizes operational details more heavily than JCI:

Technological Integration: Requirements for implementing AI and digital monitoring systems in medical facilities [25]. Staff Competency: Continuous assessment of every staff member's knowledge level regarding patient safety [12].

International Patient Safety Goals (IPSG). As noted by Pant I. and Sharma K.K., six fundamental goals lie at the heart of accreditation [12]. These goals prevent the most common errors in the system. Correct Patient Identification: 15-20% of errors occur specifically due to patient misidentification. Effective Communication: Implementation of the "Read-back" rule when giving physician orders over the phone. High-Alert Medications: Separately storing "Look-Alike, Sound-Alike" (LASA) medications. Safe Surgery: Reducing the risk of wrong-site or wrong-organ surgery to zero by conducting a "Time-out" before the procedure. Infection Control: Hand hygiene standards [Source 13: SHEA/APIC].

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Fall Risk: Assessing patients for fall risks and implementing prevention protocols [30].

Section Analytical Conclusion. The fundamental difference between JCI and NABH standards lies in their geographic application and economic requirements; however, they share a common goal: "Do No Harm." As Donaldson L. [5] states, clinical risk management is a process of continuous learning.

The NHS Patient Safety Conference (2022) emphasized that the most significant barrier to patient safety is a "culture of defensiveness" [14]. If healthcare professionals fear punishment when an error occurs, they are more likely to conceal it. Consequently, the transition from a punitive approach to a transparent, system-oriented analysis is vital for sustainable safety improvements.

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Fundamental Rules. *Based on Smith P.W. and SHEA/APIC Guidelines.* Surveillance and Reporting**.** Systematic Tracking: Establishing a proactive system to identify and monitor healthcare-associated infections (HAIs). Data Analysis: Regular analysis of infection rates to identify outbreaks or breaches in protocol. Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions Hand Hygiene: The single most important measure. Strict adherence to the "5 Moments for Hand Hygiene" defined by the WHO. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Correct use of gloves, gowns, masks, and eye protection based on the level of risk. Isolation Protocols: Implementing specific measures (contact, droplet, or airborne precautions) for patients with multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs). Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection. Decontamination: Rigorous cleaning of high-touch surfaces and medical equipment using EPA-approved disinfectants. Waste Management: Proper disposal of clinical waste and sharps to prevent cross-contamination. Antimicrobial Stewardship (AS) Rational Use of Antibiotics: Ensuring the right drug is given at the right dose, for the right duration, to prevent antibiotic resistance. Monitoring Resistance: Tracking local resistance patterns to guide empirical therapy. Staff Education and Immunization. Continuous Training: Ongoing education for all healthcare workers on infection

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control practices. Vaccination: Ensuring staff are immunized against preventable diseases (e.g., Influenza, Hepatitis B) to protect both themselves and the patients. Here is the English translation and structured summary of the professional medical concepts you provided, focusing on antibiotic stewardship, infection control, and the future of healthcare technology. Antibiotic Stewardship (NABH 6th Edition, 2025)

The NABH 6th Edition (2025) mandates strict monitoring of antibiotic usage in hospitals. Misuse of antibiotics causes harm not only to the individual patient but to the global ecosystem through the rise of antimicrobial resistance. Key takeaway: Antibiotic management is no longer just a clinical choice; it is a global environmental responsibility. WHO "5 Moments for Hand Hygiene". The model developed by the World Health Organization (WHO) remains the most effective method for breaking the chain of infection. Before touching a patient. Before clean/aseptic procedures. After body fluid exposure risk. After touching a patient. After touching patient surroundings. Patient Safety 2030: The Role of Technology.

According to the report "Patient Safety 2030" by Yu A. et al., technology is the cornerstone of future safety systems.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Predictive Monitoring

Shahzad M. F. (2024) emphasizes that AI's role extends beyond diagnosis to monitoring staff efficiency and patient stability. Early Warning Systems: AI algorithms analyze vital signs to provide alerts 6–12 hours before a patient's condition deteriorates. B. Electronic Medical Records (EMR)

As noted by Cece S. and Köse İ., the integration of JCI and HIMSS EMRAM models. Reduces administrative paperwork (bureaucracy). Eliminates medication errors caused by illegible handwriting or "documentation errors."

Here is the professional English translation and structured synthesis of your strategic analysis regarding JCI 8th Edition, NABH 6th Edition, and the future of healthcare safety in Uzbekistan [20, 25].

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The Evolution of Global Standards (JCI & NABH). The JCI 8th Edition marks a milestone by introducing specific sections on virtual care (telemedicine). Patient safety is no longer confined to hospital walls; data privacy and digital security are now integral components of patient safety [22].

Strategic Benefits of JCI Accreditation. Global Trust: Quality assurance for international medical tourism. Insurance Integration: Eligibility for contracts with major international insurance providers. Standardization: Uniform excellence across all clinical and administrative services.

The Systems Approach: The "Swiss Cheese Model". The most effective way to reduce medical errors is to shift from blaming individuals to strengthening systemic layers of defense. Based on James Reason's Swiss Cheese Model, errors occur only when holes in multiple layers of defense align. Incident Reporting: Transparently reporting errors is not a sign of weakness but a hallmark of a maturing Safety Culture.

Human Factors and Mental Health. According to Borch-Jacobsen [44], a fatigued or depressed clinician is the greatest threat to patient safety. Burnout Prevention: Maintaining a healthy work-life balance is a mandatory safety requirement, not a luxury. Staff Well-being: High-performing systems must monitor the mental health of healthcare workers to ensure clinical vigilance.

Strategic Proposals for Uzbekistan's Healthcare System. To elevate the quality of medical care, the following steps are proposed:

National Reporting System: Establishing a "Learning over Punishing" framework for medical errors. NABH 6th Edition Integration: Utilizing practical checklists from NABH, which are highly effective for developing healthcare infrastructures [25]. Digital Transformation: Moving toward "Digital Safety" and patient-centric remote monitoring.

Conclusion: From Technology to Culture. Patient safety is a dynamic process, not a static goal. While technological upgrades like AI and EMR are vital, a true breakthrough requires a "Safety Culture Transformation." The convergence of

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JCI 8th and NABH 6th editions proves that the future of healthcare lies in the intersection of digital safety, telemedicine, and system-wide resilience [20,22, 25].

Here is the professional English translation and strategic synthesis of your final points regarding technological innovation, national implementation, and the human-centric approach to patient safety.

Technological Innovation and Error Reduction. The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Electronic Medical Records (EMR) provides a critical safety net against human error. Research indicates that these systems can reduce medication and diagnostic errors by 30–40% [22,30]. Clinical Decision Support: AI cross-references patient data with drug databases to flag potential interactions in real-time. Accuracy: Automation removes the risks associated with manual transcription and illegible handwriting. Strategic Vision for Uzbekistan's Medical Facilities

Adapting to JCI standards is a dual-purpose strategy for Uzbekistan. Clinical Excellence: Directly reducing medical errors and improving patient outcomes. Medical Tourism Hub: Serving as a legal and quality guarantee that attracts international patients, positioning the country as a regional leader in healthcare [21].

Personnel Readiness: The IPSG Standard. As emphasized by Pant I. (2025), knowledge of the International Patient Safety Goals (IPSG) must be institutionalized through continuous assessment [12].

The 6 Fundamental IPSG Goals. Identify patients correctly. Improve effective communication. Improve the safety of high-alert medications. Ensure safe surgery (Correct site, correct procedure, correct patient). Reduce the risk of healthcare-associated infections. Reduce the risk of patient harm resulting from falls.

Patient Engagement: The "Active Citizen Framework". Safety is a shared responsibility. Encouraging patients to participate actively in their own care

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(Active Citizen Framework) acts as a final check-and-balance system.. Shared Decision-Making: Patients who understand their treatment plans are more likely to notice and prevent errors in medication or surgical procedures [20].

Final Synthesis: Safety by Design. As L. Donaldson [5] famously stated: *"Safety is not an accident; it is the result of systematic labor."*. Today, accreditation standards such as JCI and NABH are not merely bureaucratic requirements; they are life-saving blueprints. For the healthcare system of Uzbekistan, the widespread implementation of these standards is the definitive path to ensuring that every citizen receives medical care that meets global safety benchmarks.

In conclusion, Here is the professional English translation of your text regarding the Joint Commission International (JCI). The Joint Commission International (JCI) is a global organization dedicated to the accreditation and certification of healthcare facilities worldwide. As the international arm of the American-based "Joint Commission," it establishes rigorous criteria for the quality and reliability of medical services.

JCI accreditation confirms that an institution meets universally recognized global standards in patient care, risk mitigation, and process structuring. The primary focus of JCI is centered on patient safety, the reduction of medical errors, and the continuous improvement of service quality.

JCI standards apply to hospitals, outpatient clinics, research centers, and various other medical entities. Holding a JCI accreditation is often regarded as a "gold standard" or a hallmark of excellence in healthcare. It is important to note that JCI does not analyze the direct therapeutic outcomes of individual specialists; instead, it monitors and evaluates the entire operational framework and organizational systems as a whole.

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