



CONNECTION

Complimentary Copies of the 2012 Handbook

Beginning with the 2012 publication cycle, all organizations that are accredited at the time of the book's release will receive a complimentary electronic copy of the appropriate publication. Printed copies will still be available for purchase if preferred. The 2012 publications are expected to be available in March 2012.



Medical Home Workshops

AAAHC will be hosting two workshops for organizations seeking to be accredited as Medical Homes. The first one will be taking place in Novi, Michigan, on September 14, and the second in the Grand Rapids, Michigan, area on September 15. Each program will be a one-day intensive look at the relevant AAAHC standards for a Medical Home. For additional information on this program, or to register, please contact Pat Mead at pmead@aaahc.org.



New Medical Home Video

Following our recent interactive video, *Introduction to AAAHC* (which can be viewed at www.aaahc.org or on YouTube), AAAHC recently completed work on a Medical Home video. Shooting was done at Orchard Productions, Chicago, and at Dreyer Medical Clinic, Batavia, Illinois, a AAAHC- accredited Medical Home. [To view the video online, please click here.](#)



July, 2011

In This Issue

- » [Complimentary Copies of the 2012 Handbook](#)
- » [Medical Home Workshops](#)
- » [New Medical Home Video](#)
- » [Mark Your Calendars! AAAHC Achieving Accreditation Program at the NACHC CHI & Expo!](#)
- » [Ask the Expert](#)
- » [AAAHC Institute for Quality Improvement: September My QI Workshop: 2011 Innovations Awards: and Study Opportunities](#)

Join AAAHC at the Following Achieving Accreditation Educational Seminars This Year

Boston, MA
September 23-24, 2011
Seaport Boston

Las Vegas, NV
December 2-3, 2011
Bellagio

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Mark Your Calendars! AAAHC *Achieving Accreditation* Program at the NACHC CHI & Expo!

For grantees considering accreditation or those who want to learn more about it, the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) will be offering an *Achieving Accreditation* program during the NACHC Community Health Institute (CHI) & Expo. This in-depth and interactive program is designed to provide the



Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego

knowledge and skills you need to prepare for AAAHC survey. If you are curious about accreditation, the Accreditation Initiative, or preparing to apply for accreditation, this program will help you understand the applicable AAAHC standards, policies, and procedures to get your health center ready for survey.

This one and a half day program is led by highly-experienced AAAHC surveyors who will take you through the standards, the survey process and provide an overview of the requirements that grantees must maintain in order to attain accreditation.

All attendees will be provided with a complimentary copy of the Accreditation Handbook for Ambulatory Healthcare (a \$250 value).

Advance Registration is required*

WHEN:

Friday, August 26, 2011 (1:00 PM – 5:30 PM)

Saturday, August 27, 2011 (8:00 AM – 5:30 PM)

WHERE:

Manchester Hyatt, San Diego, CA

*To register please contact NACHC at: (301) 347-0400.

Ask the Expert

Q. On a survey, what exactly will the surveyor be looking for when checking compliance with standard 7.II.N on recalls? How many policies do we need?

A. In order to comply with standard 7.II.N, the organization should have a written policy and procedure to address the recall of items used in direct patient care to the extent that these items are currently used in the organization. The written policy should:

- Identify who in the organization is responsible for monitoring the



Raymond Grundman
MSN, MPA, CASC

recalls

- Describe how the responsible individual(s) will identify if the product is present in the organization
- Document the organization's response to the recall, including how the recall item(s) were removed from inventory and disposed of, and any patient notification, if indicated

Compliance with this standard does not require organizations to document the lot number of each and every medication administered to patients being treated in the organization's facility. However, this is a requirement and best practice for vaccines and implantable medical devices.

Maintaining an inventory list of all items used in patient care, sometimes referred to as an "Item Master File," is a desirable best practice. In addition, the organization should be advised to discuss the possibility of items being recalled with their distributors and suppliers and have a plan of action agreed upon in advance of any actual recalls. Vendors should be expected to maintain records of items purchased and supplied to the organization and to notify the organization of any recalls involving these specific items.

Organizations do not need to rely exclusively on their distributors and suppliers for information on recalls. A common source for up-to-date information on the recall of drugs, vaccines, blood products, medical devices, medical equipment, and food products is the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA maintains a web site so that organizations can sign up to receive information on recalls, market withdrawals, and safety alerts on an immediate, daily, or weekly basis. To subscribe to the on-line notification program, [click here](#).

To search for the most recently posted recalls, [click here](#).

— Answered by Raymond Grundman, MSN, MPA
AAAHC Senior Director
External Relations & AAAHC Surveyor

AAAHC Institute for Quality Improvement: September My QI Workshop; 2011 Innovations Awards; and Study Opportunities

The AAAHC Institute is offering its *My QI* Workshop in Boston, September 24th, from 1:30 to 4 pm. This is scheduled to allow AAAHC *Achieving Accreditation*



Boston

participants the opportunity to attend. The program is designed to complement the AAAHC seminar by helping participants understand how to initiate and implement a quality improvement (QI) activity. Participants choose a topic and work through the AAAHC "10 elements" of QI. [If you are interested in learning more about the program or registering, click here.](#)

2011 Innovations Awards

The recipients of the 2011 *Bernard A. Kershner Innovations in Quality Improvement Awards* are the University of Michigan for an "STD Assessment" activity and Elgin Gastroenterology Endoscopy Center for a "Blood Sugar Study." The winners will receive their awards and make presentations on their award-winning activities, at the December 2011 AAAHC Institute National Education Forum for Ambulatory Health Care, December 3-4, at the Bellagio in Las Vegas. [For more details or to download an application, click here.](#)

Study Opportunities

Organizations may now register for the July through December 2011 AAAHC Institute studies on:

- Primary and Specialty Non-Surgical Care, including:
 - Dental care
 - Behavioral or mental health care
 - Family practice
 - Internal medicine
 - Pediatric care
 - Women's health care
- New top ambulatory surgeries/procedures:
 - Breast biopsy
 - Bunion excision and toe repair; carpal tunnel release; shoulder arthroscopy
 - Cardiac catheterization
 - Cervical spinal injection; lumbosacral spin x-ray; vertebroplasty
 - Cystoscopy
 - D & C; hysteroscopy
 - EG or polysomnogram
 - EGD
 - Blepharoplasty; rhinoplasty
 - Inguinal hernia repair
 - Lap band procedures
 - LASIK
 - Lithotripsy
 - Myringotomy
 - Root canal; third molar removal
 - Skin excision or destruction

[Additional information on study opportunities and registration can be found here.](#)

If you have questions or comments, please contact Angela FitzSimmons at afitzsimmons@aaahc.org.

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