

Pain Management

A Systems Approach to Improving Quality and Safety

Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., is committed to improving pain management. Janssen has embarked on an Institutional Quality Campaign Initiative to support hospitals and health care systems in their efforts to elevate quality and build and maintain high performing pain management services.

Pain is a major health condition that affects more Americans than heart disease, diabetes, and cancer combined.¹ Whether acute or chronic pain, its consequences can have a “domino effect” as pain can negatively impact patients, healthcare organizations, caregivers, and employers. The financial burden is significant. One study at an institution found that 1.5% (313/20,817 patients) of same day surgery (SDS) patients were readmitted or had unanticipated admissions directly related to the original SDS procedure within 30 days. More than one-third of the total were patients who had pain-related complaints. Mean charges were \$1869 per visit.² Estimates for the annual US cost of chronic pain, including its negative effect on workforce productivity, reportedly range from \$40 billion to \$220 billion.³ An extrapolation of one study estimates that in the United States, as much as \$70 billion per year is attributed to lost (“absenteeism”) or reduced effectiveness due to workers’ pain.⁴

The awareness of pain management now plays an even more important role as it is one of 8 key topics that comprise the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey. Results of the HCAHPS survey will soon be one of the measures used to calculate institutional incentive payments. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 includes HCAHPS among measures that will be used to calculate value-based incentive payments beginning with patient discharges in October 2012.

Utilizing current knowledge about pain management processes can substantially benefit organizations by assessing current practice, identifying gaps, and implementing change. Doing so will improve business outcomes for value-based purchasing, enhance patient satisfaction and quality measures, and strengthen HCAHPS survey scores.

Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., is pleased to support the *CamPAINing for RELIEF* initiative. Through this dedicated program, a number of different materials will be made available that will allow you to assess, analyze, monitor, and improve your pain management service.

Our first resource, “Pain Management: A Systems Approach to Improving Quality and Safety,” is a 4-module CD developed by Joint Commission Resources. It is designed to assist healthcare organizations perform an objective assessment of existing strategies to manage pain and to use demonstrated performance improvement methods and tools to address gaps and improve performance in pain management from a systems approach. It incorporates hands-on experience with 5 healthcare organizations on their journey to improved pain processes. We trust you will find this to be an invaluable tool as you design or redesign your pain management system.

Janssen will continue to offer information and materials that can positively impact your hospital. If you have any questions about the CD, or any of the future offerings, please ask your Janssen representative.

References

1. American Pain Foundation. <http://www.painfoundation.org>. Accessed March 9, 2012.
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3. Anatchkova MD, Saris-Baglama RN, Kosinski M, Bjorner JB. Development and preliminary testing of a computerized adaptive assessment of chronic pain. *J Pain*. 2009;10(9):932–943.
4. Brennan F, Carr DB, Cousins M. Pain management: a fundamental human right. *Anesth Analg*. 2007;105:205–221.



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