The purpose of this toolkit is to assist hospitals with meeting the new and revised pain assessment and management standards set forth by the Joint Commission effective January 1, 2018, in sections: Leadership (LD), Medical Staff (MS), Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC), and Performance Improvement (PI).

This toolkit is not meant to be a comprehensive “how to meet all TJC pain standards” document, because all facilities are unique and will have different opportunities and barriers. It is meant to give examples of interventions and resources to help in individualizing the standards in your institution. All staff have a different knowledge base and responsibilities, so assess each standard in order to have the appropriate staff input, i.e.; nursing, medicine, pharmacy, informatics, etc. A worksheet template is included to get your plan started.

Hospitals and nursing, in particular, have struggled with providing quality pain and comfort care to patients in today’s healthcare climate. Multiple factors affect the care being given and it is our hope that this toolkit can assist in meeting and providing quality patient care.

Please see The Joint Commission website for further explanations and resources:

https://www.jointcommission.org/topics/pain_management.aspx