



## Main Accreditation Organizations for U.S. Health Care Entities



### ACCREDITATION ORGANIZATIONS

- National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)
- Joint Commission – unannounced hospital surveys
- American Accreditation HealthCare Commission/Utilization Review Accreditation Commission (AAHC/URAC)
- Accreditation Association for Ambulatory HealthCare (AAAHC)
- Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS): gives deeming authority to Joint Commission, Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (HFAP) and Det Norske Veritas Healthcare, Inc. (DNV) for hospitals; gives deeming authority to NCQA for Medicare Advantage health plans

Accrediting Organizations	Targets for Accreditation	Types of Standards	Accreditation Categories
NCQA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health plans</li> <li>• Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)</li> <li>• Managed Behavioral healthcare Organizations</li> <li>• Population Health Management</li> <li>• Wellness and Health promotion</li> <li>• Utilization management, Credentialing and Provider Network for Independent Practice Associations (IPAs)/Provider Groups</li> </ul> <a href="http://www.ncqa.org/programs/accreditation">http://www.ncqa.org/programs/accreditation</a>	Clinical, administrative	Excellent, Commendable, Accredited, or Provisional
Joint Commission	Hospitals, home health, long-term care, clinical labs, health networks, ambulatory care	Structural, organizational, patient focused	
AAHC/URAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health plans</li> <li>• ACOs</li> <li>• Patient-Centered Medical Homes (PCMHs)</li> <li>• Dental plans</li> <li>• Pharmacy benefits managers</li> <li>• Case Management</li> </ul> <a href="https://www.urac.org/about-urac">https://www.urac.org/about-urac</a>	Credentialing verification organization standards, case mgmt., health network, health utilization	
AAAHC	Ambulatory surgery, birthing centers, urgent care, community health centers	Quality of care, patients' rights, governance, environment	