

DNV Healthcare Inc.

ADVISORY NOTICE

Notice Number:
2014-HC01

These Advisory Notices are designed to provide you, our client, with information relative to Accredited Management System Certification activities. Should you have any questions about the content of this notice, please contact our office for further information.

Date:	5/19/2014
Subject:	Primary Stroke Survey Changes
Distribution:	To all DNV Hospitals
Approved By:	Patrick Horine

Primary Stroke Survey Changes

DNV GL is proud to announce some changes in the stroke center certification process. After an internal review and feedback from our partner healthcare organizations, we have made a decision to perform all stroke certification surveys separate from the annual accreditation survey. This approach will give undivided attention to the stroke clinical program as well as to the management of this highly specialized and unique program. While accreditation evaluates institutions or agencies etc., for having met certain established qualifications of standards, certification is the professional attestation of an individual or an individual program, usually, within an accredited organization. Those two activities should be looked at differently and while our process had been effective, we are continuing the process of improving our programs.

Summary of Changes:

The stroke programs will be given 30 days' notice as to the date of the survey.

This will give the organization time to alert the stroke team members so that they can make plans to be present for the survey rather than by chance. We realize that this is a dedicated structure with its own unique processes and the survey should be inclusive of those that are most involved in the design, running and performance of the program.

This change will go into effect on June 2, 2014. The primary contact person from your organization will receive an email from the scheduling staff as the 30 day notification date. Once that email has been sent there will be no changes made. If there are suggested blackout dates specific to the PSC survey, please make that request at least 60 days in advance of your survey window. We will no longer schedule any stroke surveys during the International stroke conference week, so you will not have to include that week in your black out requests.

Clinical Staff Peer Engagement

Because stroke programs (and other clinical programs) are heavily evidence based, it will enhance the stroke survey process for the stroke team members to interact with clinical peers. The disease care model is clinical by design and a peer reviewed program can enhance the review of data and its usage, determine the effectiveness of the designed standardized approach and complement the organizations focus on evaluation of performance improvement and clinical practice.

Program Focus

Every activity in the new schedule and survey is focused on the performance and management of the stroke program. In the combined model, representatives of the stroke program were blended into the accreditation process rather than the disease care design and approach. The representatives of, orientation, ongoing education and competence will be programmatically focused rather than organizational focused.

Only one performance requirement rather than two separate but equal requirements.

Some of our programs are not in DNV GL accredited hospitals and have a comparable robust performance improvement/quality program, but not ISO compliant. These programs have had to struggle with being held to some of the requirements that ISO compliant hospitals have. This new survey process will focus on the data collection, analysis and use of data for the stroke specific data but will not delve into the ISO format. There are very specific data sets that the stroke programs collect and use and the emphasis will be on that process rather than the ISO format. This brings all of the DNV stroke centers into their own unique data system that can be used collectively/comparatively at some point, if there is a decision to do that down the road.