References to *Spirituality, Religion, Beliefs, and Cultural Diversity* in the Joint Commission's Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Hospitals, as of January 1, 2015

John Ehman (john.ehman@uphs.upenn.edu), 2/1/15

RI.01.01.01 (The hospital respects, protects, and promotes patient rights.)

**Chapter Overview:** Recognizing and respecting patient rights directly affects the provision of care. Care, treatment, and services should be provided in a way that respects and fosters the patient’s dignity, autonomy, positive self-regard, civil rights, and involvement in his or her care. Care, treatment, and services should also be carefully planned and provided with regard to the patient’s personal values, **BELIEFS**, and preferences.

**Element of Performance #6:** The hospital respects the patient's **CULTURAL** and personal values, **BELIEFS**, and preferences.

**Element of Performance #9:** The hospital accommodates the patient's right to **RELIgIOUS** and other **SPIRITUAL** services.

PC.01.02.01 (The hospital assesses and reassesses its patients.)

**Element of Performance #4:** Based on the patient's condition, information gathered in the initial assessment includes the following: ...For patients who are receiving end-of-life care, the social, **SPIRITUAL**, and **CULTURAL** variables that influence the patient’s and family members’ perception of grief.

PC.01.02.11 (The hospital assesses the needs of patients who receive psychosocial services to treat alcoholism or other substance use disorders.)

**Element of Performance #5:** Based on the patient’s age and needs, the assessment for patients receiving psychosocial services for the treatment of alcoholism or other substance use disorders includes the following: ...The patient’s **RELIGION** and **SPIRITUAL BELIEFS**, values, and preferences.

PC.01.02.13 (The hospital assesses the needs of patients who receive treatment for emotional and behavioral disorders.)

**Element of Performance #3:** Based on the patient’s age and needs, the assessment for patients who receive treatment for emotional and behavioral disorders includes the following: ...The patient’s **RELIGION** and **SPIRITUAL BELIEFS**, values, and preferences.

PC.02.02.03 (The hospital makes food and nutrition products available to its patients.)

**Element of Performance #9:** When possible, the hospital accommodates the patient’s **CULTURAL**, **RELIgIOUS**, or ethnic food and nutrition preferences, unless contraindicated.

PC.02.02.13 (The patient's comfort and dignity receive priority during end-of-life care.)

**Introduction to the Standard:** Patients who are near or at the end of their lives need to receive care that addresses their psychosocial, emotional, and **SPIRITUAL** needs. To provide care that meets these needs, staff involved in patient care require education about the unique needs of dying patients and their families.

**Element of Performance #1:** To the extent possible, the hospital provides care and services that accommodate the patient's and his or her family's comfort, dignity, psychosocial, emotional, and **SPIRITUAL** end-of-life needs.

PC.02.03.01 (The hospital provides patient education and training based on each patient's needs and abilities.)

**Element of Performance #1:** The hospital performs a learning needs assessment for each patient, which includes the patient’s **CULTURAL** and **RELIgIOUS BELIEFS**, emotional barriers, desire and motivation to learn, physical or cognitive limitations, and barriers to communication.

TS.01.01.01 (The hospital, with the medical staff's participation, develops and implements written policies and procedures for donating and procuring organs and tissues.)

**Element of Performance #5:** Staff education includes training in the use of discretion and sensitivity to the circumstances, **BELIEFS**, and desires of the families of potential organ, tissue, or eye donors.

HR.01.04.01 (The hospital provides orientation to staff.)

**Element of Performance #5:** The hospital orients staff on the following: Sensitivity to **CULTURAL** diversity based on their job duties and responsibilities. Completion of this orientation is documented.

MS.06.01.03 (The hospital collects information regarding each practitioner's current license status, training, experience, competence, and ability to perform the requested privilege.)

**Introduction to the Standard:** Credentialing -- Professionalism: Practitioners are expected to demonstrate behaviors that reflect a commitment to continuous professional development, ethical practice, an understanding and sensitivity to **DIVERSITY**, † and a responsible attitude toward their patients, their profession, and society.

† The Joint Commission considers **DIVERSITY** to include race, culture, gender, **RELIgIOUS**, ethnic background, sexual preference, language, mental capacity, and physical disability.  
[—footnote added to the manual in 2008]