

## REGULATORY AND PRACTICE RESOURCES

*Michael P. Gulseth and William E. Dager*

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### INTRODUCTION

Anticoagulation therapy continues to expand across the world as the population ages, has improved access or advances in healthcare, and has increasing management choices. Optimal use of anticoagulants and related outcomes has its own challenges; however, because available agents have associated risks for adverse events or treatment failures that impact healthcare both at the individual and national/international level. To maximize benefits for anticoagulation therapy, responsible agencies may create incentives to improve cost-effectiveness and safer management. Practitioners, in return, will expect that the resources meet the following goals: encourage optimal care, minimize adverse events, and have the necessary funding to sustain their existence.

Healthcare in the United States is moving away from established reimbursements such as a fee-for-service model, to one that rewards practitioners for keeping patients healthy and out of the hospital. The push toward *value-based purchasing* has led to efforts to pay facilities based on process-of-care measures and patient outcomes. Unfortunately, the specific measures and outcomes used to measure performance are constantly changing, so this chapter is geared toward providing clinicians with insights on understanding current measures and outcomes.

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### REGULATORY/QUALITY RESOURCES

See **Tables 24-1 through 24-4.**

TABLE 24-1: Regulatory Agencies and Their Role

Agency	Role
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)	Part of the Department of Health and Human Services—charged with delivering the Medicare program, and in concert with the states, the Medicaid program; previously known as the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA).
Det Norske Veritas (DNV) Healthcare, Inc.	Part of the DNV group; an independent foundation; DNV accreditation allows an organization to participate in the Medicare program.
Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (HFAP)	Not-for-profit organization that accredits and certifies healthcare organizations and programs; HFAP accreditation allows an organization to participate in the Medicare program.
The Joint Commission (TJC)	Not-for-profit organization that accredits and certifies healthcare organizations and programs; TJC accreditation allows an organization to participate in the Medicare program.
National Quality Forum (NQF)	Organization of over 400 organizations that develops consensus standards; NQF-endorsed measures are subsequently often required by accreditation and/or government bodies.

TABLE 24-2: The Joint Commission Regulatory Resources

Topic	Web Address	Comment
Joint Commission home page	<a href="http://www.jointcommission.org/">www.jointcommission.org/</a>	Home page
National Patient Safety Goals (NPSGs)	<a href="http://www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/npsgs.aspx">www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/npsgs.aspx</a>	Current NPSGs, currently 03.05.01 covers anticoagulation therapy.
Performance Measures	<a href="http://www.jointcommission.org/performance_measurement.aspx">www.jointcommission.org/performance_measurement.aspx</a>	Links to all current TJC measures.
Current Core Measurements	<a href="http://www.jointcommission.org/core_measure_sets.aspx">www.jointcommission.org/core_measure_sets.aspx</a>	Links to all current TJC core measures; many core measures affect anticoagulation practice.
Current Specification Manual for National Hospital Inpatient Quality Measures	<a href="http://www.jointcommission.org/specifications_manual_for_national_hospital_inpatient_quality_measures.aspx">www.jointcommission.org/specifications_manual_for_national_hospital_inpatient_quality_measures.aspx</a>	Manual provides specifics on how core measures are abstracted.
Standards Manual	<a href="http://www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/standards.aspx">www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/standards.aspx</a>	Site provides links to purchase full TJC standards.