

CHEAT SHEET: Healthcare Inspections



Use this quick reference guide to know the areas that various governing bodies may inspect at your organization, as well as areas of interest for internal inspections. Knowing what might be surveyed will support your preparatory efforts, so that you can proactively compile the reports and documentation needed to demonstrate compliance.

Areas of Interest for External Inspections:

External inspections are required by outside governing bodies that follow federal rules, regulations, and laws in order to protect both patients and workers. An external inspection can occur without notice, with heightened probability immediately following a workplace injury or incident.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

- Management Leadership
- Worker Participation
- Hazard Identification and Assessment
- Hazard Prevention and Control
- Education and Training
- Program Evaluation and Improvement
- Communication & Coordination for Host Employers, Contractors, and Staffing Agencies

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General (OIG)

- Waste
- Fraud
- Abuse

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights (OCR)

- Health Information Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)
- Patient Privacy and Security
- Policies and Procedures for Protected Health Information (PHI)

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

- Electronic Health Record (EHR) System
- Medicare–Medicaid Plans (MMPs)
- Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs)
- Prescription Drug Plans (PDPs)
- Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Commercial Payers / Private Insurance Companies

- Validity of Reimbursements
- Underpayment or Overpayment on Claims
- Sufficient Medical Documentation

Areas of Interest for Internal Inspections:

Internal inspections are recommended and can be conducted by the facility itself or by a contracted private entity. Depending on the nature and practices of your healthcare organization, internal inspections can be conducted daily, weekly, monthly, semi-annually, or annually.

- Documentation
- HIPAA Compliance
- Training and Education
- Licensure and Certification
- Payer Enrollment
- Hand Hygiene
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Emergency Response
- Disaster Preparedness
- Equipment Use and Application
- De-escalation Strategies
- Communication Skills
- Debriefing Strategies
- Medication Management
- AED Location Awareness
- CPR / BLS / ACLS Competency

Documenting your compliance efforts is vital to passing inspections and lowering pre-audit anxiety. Download our free guide, “Compliance Reports You Can’t Live Without” for step-by-step instructions for creating nine compliance reports.

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