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The Joint Commission has approved the following revisions for prepublication. While revised requirements are published in the semiannual updates to the print manuals (as well as in the online *E-dition* subscribers can also view them in the monthly periodical *The Joint Commission Perspectives* subscription, call 800-746-6578 or visit <http://www.jcrinc.com>.

**Please note:** Where applicable, this report shows current standards and EPs first, with deleted language struck-through. Then, the revised requirement follows in bold text, with new language underlined.

#### APPLICABLE TO THE LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Effective July 1, 2025

The laboratory has an infection prevention and control program for the prevention and control of communicable diseases and infections.

**New EP 1** The laboratory's infection prevention and control program is under the direction of a designated and qualified professional who has training in infection control.

**New EP 3** The laboratory has written policies and procedures to guide its activities and methods for preventing and controlling the transmission of infections and communicable diseases. The policies and procedures are in accordance with applicable law and regulation, nationally recognized evidence-based guidelines, and standards of practice, including the use of standard precautions.

**Note:** Standard precautions include hand hygiene, environmental cleaning and disinfection, injection and medication safety, use of personal protective equipment (PPE), minimizing potential exposures, and reprocessing of reusable medical equipment or devices. For full details on standard precautions, refer to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Core Infection Prevention and Control Practices for Safe Healthcare Delivery in All Settings <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/core-practices/index.html>.

**D** Documentation is required



### IC.06.01.01

The laboratory implements its infection prevention and control program through prevention and control activities.

#### Element(s) of Performance for IC.06.01.01

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- New EP 1 The laboratory identifies risks for infection, contamination, and exposure that pose a risk to patients and staff based on the following:
- Blood and infectious materials and associated equipment handled by the laboratory staff
  - Locations where lab services are provided
  - Workflows or practices for sample acquisition, handling, transport, preparation, and disposal
  - Relevant infection control issues identified by the local, state, or federal public health authorities that could impact the laboratory
  - Laboratory staff contact with patients, if applicable
- Note: Risks may include organisms with a propensity for transmission within health care facilities (for example, norovirus, respiratory syncytial virus [RSV], influenza, COVID-19) and airborne pathogens (for example, tuberculosis [TB]).

ⓓ Documentation is required

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- New EP 2 The laboratory reviews identified risks at least annually or whenever significant changes in risk occur (for example, in response to local infectious diseases outbreaks).
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