

AABB Hospital Accreditation

Your
Distinction
of Excellence.



Advancing Transfusion and
Cellular Therapies Worldwide



you must
choose
carefully

Today's Choices Can Improve Tomorrow's Outcomes.

Patients choose carefully when deciding on where to receive medical care as their choice today affects their outcome tomorrow. That is why patients seek out hospitals around the world that are known to prioritize quality, patient-centered care, innovative healthcare practices, and safety.

Similarly, when deciding on where to credential your hospital's blood banking and transfusion services, you must choose carefully. The right accreditation partner choice today can support compliance with standards and improvements in your hospital's organizational outcomes, performance, and patient satisfaction for many tomorrows.

“The AABB Accreditation Program is well constructed and well run. The standards for blood banks and transfusion services are comprehensive and the self-assessment tool is both informative and self explanatory.”

– Tawam Hospital –
Blood Bank
Transfusion Services

Choose AABB— A Collaborative Partner You Can Trust

AABB has been granted deemed status by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for its standards for transfusion, donor activities, immunohematology reference, molecular testing and cellular therapies laboratories. Our standards have been found to be as stringent—often surpassing—as those required by the Code of Federal Regulations.

A hospital's medical and administrative leaders understand that safety and quality decisions are paramount to clinical outcomes and patient experiences. Setting high goals is a powerful leadership choice—goals cannot be compromised when providing life-saving care and complex clinical interventions.

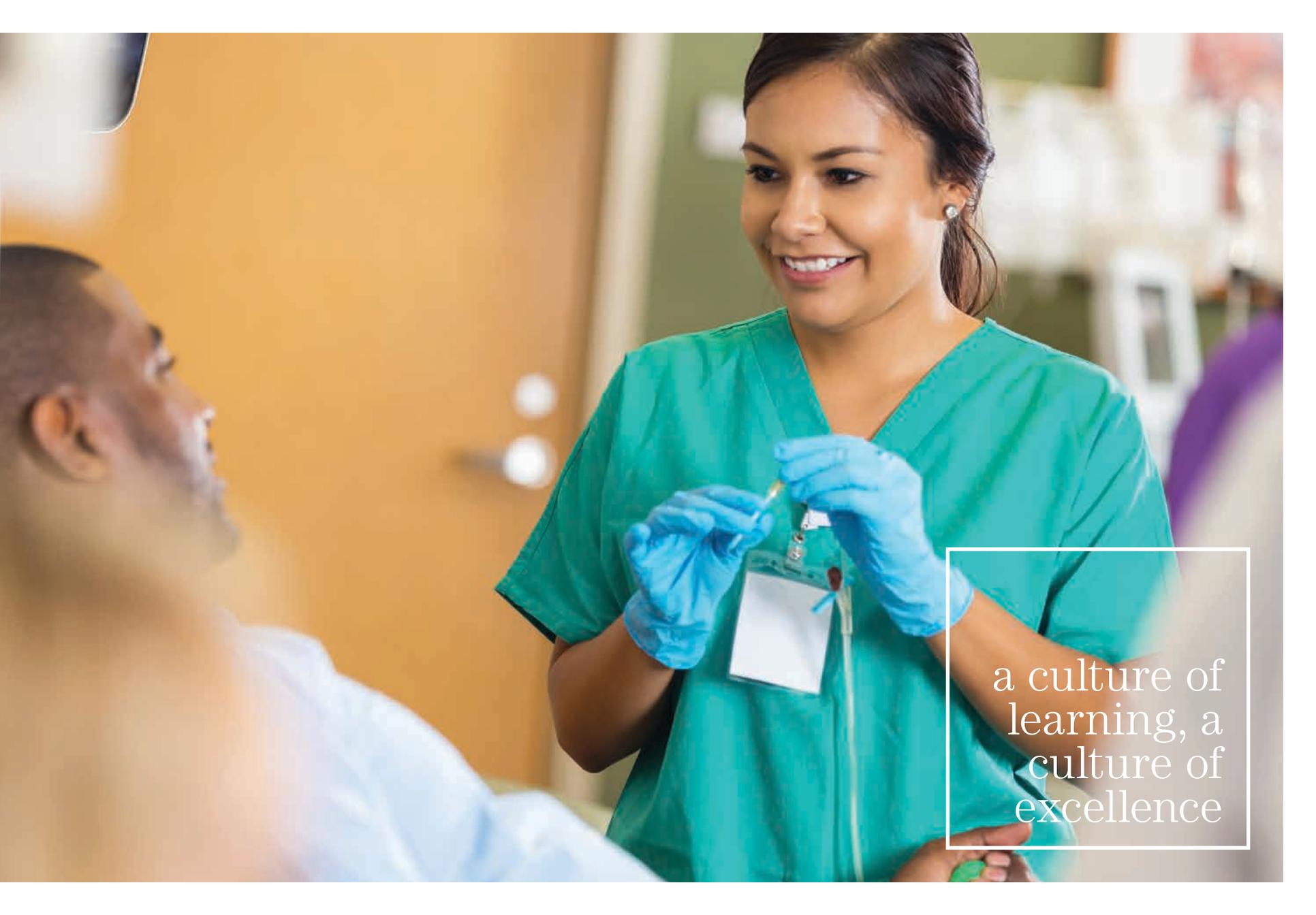
Whether managing one hospital or an entire hospital system, clinical leaders and administrators rely on AABB Accreditation as a critical tool to create and enhance quality management. Blood banking operations and transfusion medicine services require highly disciplined and rigorous oversight, and excel when accomplished within a quality management approach.

The work required to achieve accreditation builds a culture of learning, a culture of excellence. AABB sets the standards and administers the assessment and accreditation process, which is both educative

and participatory. It calls for self-evaluation and innovation involving wide participation—from doctors and laboratory managers to department leaders, technologists, and administrators—allowing hospitals to effectively identify and implement needed changes in their transfusion medicine services and blood banking operations quickly.

Now is the time to invest in the continuous improvement of your hospital's best practices, and AABB is the perfect partner. By aligning teams around essential, expert standards of care, variability in patient outcomes and risks can be reduced. The quality management skills and knowledge developed with AABB prepare your hospital for more efficient operations and better patient experiences. AABB's services that complement accreditation, such as continuing education, add value across your organization.

Choose AABB's Accreditation Program today to help your hospital build a culture of excellence while making the strategic choice to continuously optimize quality patient-centered care, innovative performance, and improved safety outcomes.



a culture of
learning, a
culture of
excellence



AABB: A Choice that Improves Quality Patient Care.

Quality medical care is affected by many factors. Choosing to provide your organization with tools and resources to identify and address areas that could potentially alter the quality and consistency of care provided to patients is an important responsibility.

When hospitals choose AABB as their accreditation partner, they position themselves to intentionally focus on innovation. AABB sets its standards based on a quality management system that affords each organization the opportunity for compliance within its own unique context, resources, and culture. In addition, AABB offers its accredited members continuing education, regulatory updates, and access to cooperative experts in blood banking and transfusion medicine services—creating a valuable community beyond accreditation.

Our highly trained assessors expect and look out for tailored approaches to meet the intent of AABB

standards. As a result, your hospital's internal practices continually evolve and improve. This, in turn, positively influences quality in every aspect of blood banking and transfusion medicine services. Blood banking and transfusion services standards have been established for many years, and are routinely reviewed every two years, or earlier if patient or donor safety issues arise. Continued adherence to standards that evolve within the field and advance with technology gains have tangible benefits to hospitals. Achieving and maintaining AABB Accreditation yields positive effects:

Attract New Patients and Referrals

A reputation that revolves around quality raises visibility and attracts new patients. As patient healthcare experiences improve, increased referrals are realized from satisfied patients who share with others your hospital's commitment to patient-centered care, quality, and safety—some of patients' top priorities.

“The highest compliment I can pay is that our establishment is better as a result of the conversations we have had with our assessors during our assessment.”

– South Bend Medical

Attract and Retain Quality Staff

Healthcare employees have employment choices and choose carefully when deciding where to work. Many desire to work for an organization that is committed to safety (theirs and their patients). Hiring healthcare employees who seek a quality-driven culture perpetuates positive results—hiring quality staff leads to improved patient outcomes, while effective and efficient operations boost morale, which can translate into better patient care.

Differentiate Your Organization

Today, patients have access to unprecedented amounts of information, which they use to make healthcare choices. A hospital's reputation reflects its commitment to quality. AABB's accreditation program is based on compliance with AABB standards, which require program assessment and measurement, helping to build quality indicators of patient care processes and outcomes. Earning

AABB Accreditation helps build your hospital's positive reputation and patient trust—in the local community and around the world.

Increase Accountability

An accredited blood bank or transfusion medicine service has the tools to monitor performance, capture deviations, and analyze suboptimal outcomes. Encouraging quality systems to track deviations from expected outcomes and identify risks in operating procedures helps reduce errors.

Reduce Liability

Adopting AABB standards as part of a hospital's on-going commitment to independent assessment may help reduce risk through continuous review—quality and safety remain at the forefront of hospital operations. Consistent and rigorous examination may reduce costs and support fiscal responsibility as well as safety.

AABB's accreditation process helps continually evolve and positively influence quality in every aspect of your hospital's blood banking and transfusion medicine services.

“The assessment for us was a very positive and educational experience. This is an opportunity to improve our quality systems in order to increase the safety of our donors and patients and continually monitor our performance.”

– **Hospital Nacional de Pediatría Garrahan**

AABB: A Choice that Supports Innovation.

Innovation results from intentional examination and knowledge transfer of evidence-based best practices throughout the organization. The AABB Accreditation Program helps your organization analyze existing processes to identify ways to support adoption of innovative methods, technology, and clinical activity.

AABB Accreditation requires self-assessment, followed by a structured assessment performed by highly trained assessors. While other accrediting organizations simply check that policies exist, AABB's overall systems assessment is more than just a procedural checklist, it is an in-depth analysis of the way your blood banking and transfusion services perform against standards and your own policies, procedures, and functions. It's what differentiates AABB from other accrediting organizations.

AABB standards incorporate both technical and quality systems standards to ensure that all facets are reviewed—from specification of equipment,

materials management, and organizational structure to documents, resource management, and program assessment. Our process includes rigorous attention to and continuous review of quality and safety procedures that are evaluated within the context of each hospital by skilled assessors.

Knowledge management is one of the greatest advantages of accreditation, and third party objective examination is vital to this process. When organizations invest the time and resources in AABB accreditation, gains can be made in:

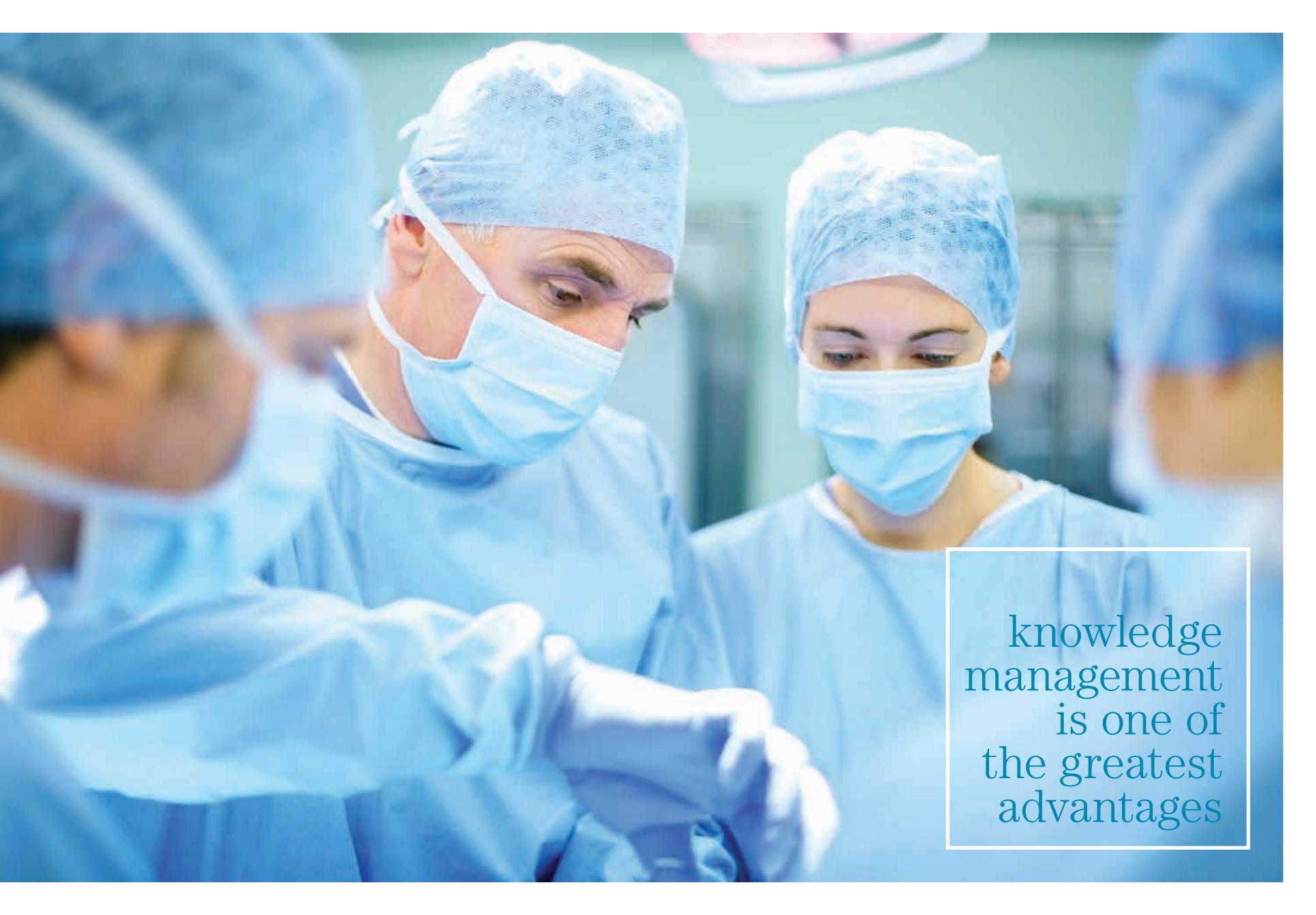
Identification of opportunities to streamline operations that may reduce operational costs.

Even small efficiency gains or reduced waste can translate into annual savings.

Quality management expertise applied to other departments and programs.

The tools developed through achieving AABB Accreditation often transfer to other departments.

Select AABB as your accreditation partner to gain tools and knowledge to build a culture comfortable with innovation and change.



knowledge
management
is one of
the greatest
advantages

A close-up photograph of a hand wearing a blue nitrile glove holding a red test tube. The test tube has a white label with a barcode. The background is a blurred laboratory setting with other test tubes and equipment.

a consistent
quality
management
approach

AABB: A Choice that Helps Improve Safety Outcomes.

Healthcare carries inherent risks. Each day, thousands of medical processes are performed, services are administered, and clinical decisions made. With pervasive change at the operational and regulatory levels, traditional methods and processes for maintaining quality and safety can become disconnected. Change management is challenging if there isn't a consistent quality management approach in place.

The accreditation process helps educate teams and identify strengths as well as improve technical competencies and refine existing

measures in an effort to prevent errors. AABB blood banking and transfusion services standards undergo a two-year cycle of review and revision, which benefits organizations by measuring hospital performance against current and evidence-based practices. The revision process includes a public comment period that seeks input by experts from around the world. As an AABB accredited member, your organization can participate in subcommittees that review and improve the standards.

A hospital's on-going commitment to third party assessment and quality systems may help manage and reduce risk through the continuous review of safety protocols. AABB Accreditation demonstrates that quality and safety remain at the forefront of your hospital's operations.

According to the article published in *The Lancet*, January 2015, entitled "Global, regional, and national age-sex specific all-cause and cause-specific mortality for 240 causes of death, 1990-2013: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2013," it is estimated that nearly 142,000 people worldwide died in 2013 from adverse effects of medical treatment. AABB Accreditation can help mitigate these risks by helping blood banking and transfusion medicine services identify and correct areas of concern.

REFERENCE: <http://www.thelancet.com/action/showFullTableImage?tableId=tbl2&pii=S0140673614616822>

AABB: The International Designation for Excellence.

AABB membership consists of nearly 1,500 institutions and 7,500 individuals, including physicians, nurses, scientists, researchers, administrators, and medical technologists. Members are located in more than 80 countries.

AABB is one of only three accrediting agencies in North America that is accredited by the International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQua).



There is power in third-party assessment and earning the distinction of accreditation. When pursuing this type of organizational excellence, it's important to choose a proven partner—AABB.

There are three benefits for selecting AABB as your accreditation partner:

AABB's Accreditation Program is Accredited

As an accrediting body, AABB undergoes rigorous accreditation itself by a third party. In short, we hold ourselves accountable to achieving accreditation and remaining a learning organization. This designation gives hospitals and other healthcare organizations confidence in our accreditation services and assessor qualifications and training.

AABB's Process Integrates with Existing Organizational Culture

Your healthcare organization is unique. You've invested time and resources establishing protocols and processes to offer services in an efficient and safe manner. The assessment process requires wide participation from your organization's staff to develop unique solutions in achieving performance that meets AABB standards. Employees are empowered to examine and recommend tailored solutions that fit your culture.

AABB Assessors are Experts

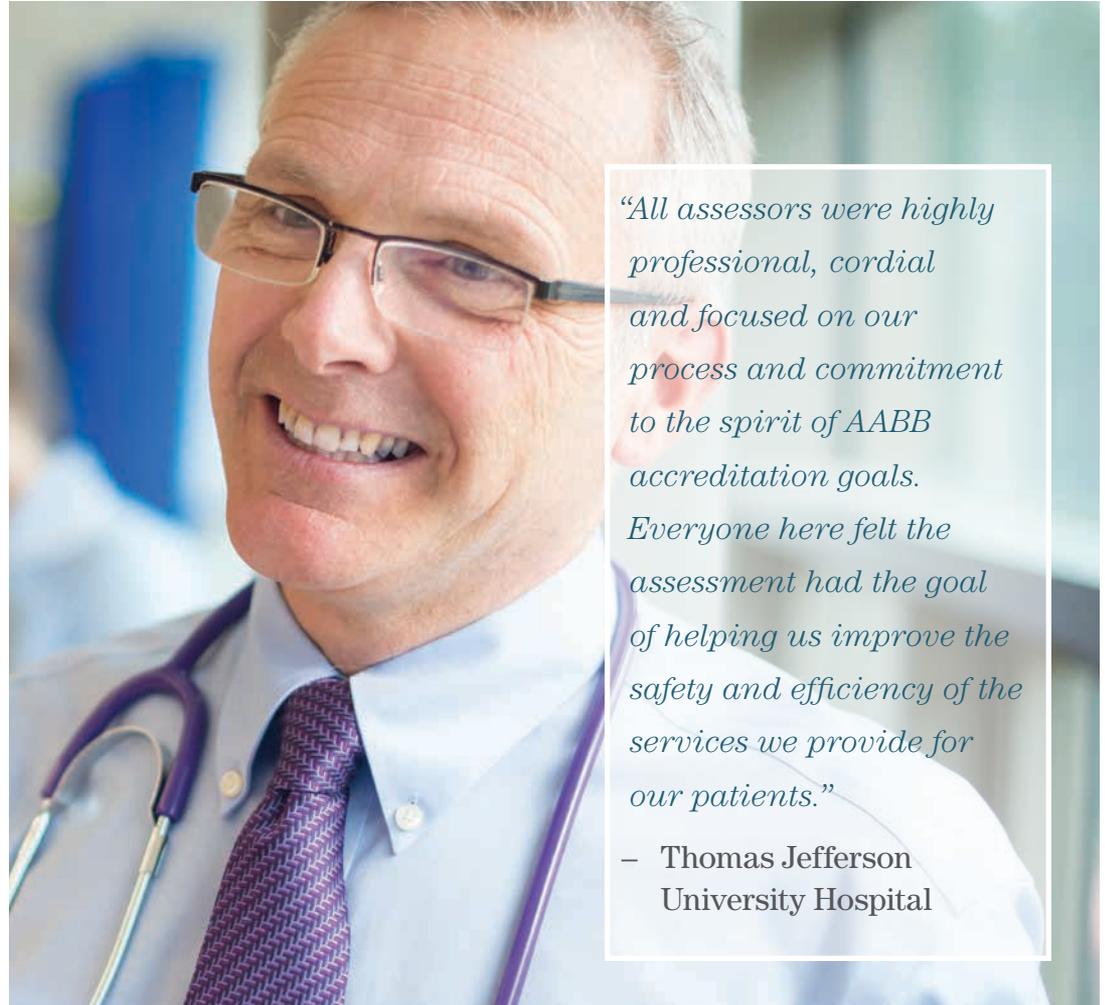
Our assessors set AABB's program apart. AABB assessors are highly qualified professionals in their fields and undergo rigorous and ongoing training with proficiency evaluations to meet our criteria. AABB assessors go beyond a checklist to provide a comprehensive review. AABB assessors not only verify that policies are in place, but they also take time to review the effectiveness of those policies with staff, so that each hospital benefits from personalized assessment and dialogue.



AABB's Assessor Training Program is accredited by ISQua, and is one of only 15 accredited training programs in the world.

AABB Accreditation offers a collaborative process, led by expert assessors—both of which are recognized by ISQua. Partner with a highly respected accrediting body that offers benefits beyond accreditation.

AABB relies on a continuous education philosophy. That is why our assessors are required to complete 65 hours of continuing education credits every two years in defined categories. They must also attend annual training, which keeps them up-to-date on important changes in healthcare regulations.



“All assessors were highly professional, cordial and focused on our process and commitment to the spirit of AABB accreditation goals. Everyone here felt the assessment had the goal of helping us improve the safety and efficiency of the services we provide for our patients.”

– Thomas Jefferson
University Hospital

“The assessment was professional, thorough and contributed to our learning and better understanding of the requirements of the standards to our staff...we are glad to have added another milestone in our journey towards achieving excellence and are proud to be part of AABB.”

– Health Sciences Authority
Blood Services Group
in Singapore

Accreditation brings many benefits to your organization. When conducted by an authoritative body, like AABB, against internationally recognized standards, accreditation is the independent and impartial evaluation of competence in relation to specific activities or services. It differentiates your hospital and indicates to patients, employees, and regulators that your organization’s leadership is committed to optimizing its standards of care.

As a global accrediting organization, AABB’s standards are often incorporated into other organizations’ standards. Our comprehensive process encourages improvement, contained within a quality systems approach, which sets AABB apart. Upon accreditation, your organization

becomes an institutional member with valuable benefits: continuing education, regulatory updates, technical specialists available to answer questions, and access to international experts who serve on AABB standards committees—all of which are designed to help hospitals and leadership continue to maintain optimal performance.

For nearly 70 years, AABB has worked with its members to drive continuous improvement in healthcare outcomes through the development and delivery of standards, accreditation, and educational programs, while preparing hospitals to effectively and safely deliver the next generation of products, services, and therapies.

Demonstrate your commitment to achieving quality patient-centered care, innovative performance, and improved safety outcomes.

Begin your AABB Accreditation at [AABB.org](https://www.aabb.org) or contact us at accreditation@aabb.org or +1.301.215.6492.



independent
and impartial
evaluation of
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