What is the SAFER matrix used by The Joint Commission?

THE DIRECT ANSWER

The SAFER matrix — Survey Analysis for Evaluating Risk — is how the Joint Commission scores every Requirement for Improvement (RFI) from a survey. Each finding is plotted on a grid by two axes: likelihood of harm (low, moderate, high) and scope (limited, pattern, widespread). Where your RFI lands determines how much corrective-action evidence you must submit — and how fast.

WHY PLACEMENT MATTERS: THE ESC

- Every RFI requires an Evidence of Standards Compliance (ESC) submission within 60 days of the findings report posting. But higher-risk placements demand more: the ESC must document leadership involvement (resources, oversight, accountability) and a preventive analysis identifying underlying causes — not just.

HOW TO READ YOUR OWN MATRIX

- When your SAFER matrix arrives with the survey findings report, triage by position, not by count. Ten low/limited RFIs are routine corrective work. Two high/pattern RFIs are a leadership problem requiring preventive analysis and sustained monitoring.

FIELD QUESTION

What does SAFER stand for?

Survey Analysis for Evaluating Risk. It replaced the old Category A/C scoring methodology in 2017.

From Healthcare Facility Hub - free, like everything on the site. The full article is at the link below.

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