

# Licensed Independent Practitioner Delegation of Tasks to Physician Assistants and Advance Practice Registered Nurses

## ***The Joint Commission's Use of the Term "Licensed Independent Practitioner" in the Accreditation Manuals***

To clarify, the purpose of the Joint Commission's use of the term *licensed independent practitioner* is not meant to negate the privileges of physician assistants or advance practice registered nurses as allowed by law and regulation and the organization.

The new language in the box to the right will be added to the Glossary of the accreditation manuals in 2006 under "licensed independent practitioner." This new language will also be added to the Glossary of the accreditation manuals under "physician assistant" and "advance practice registered nurse." ▲

## **Revised Glossary Term Definition**

**licensed independent practitioner** Any practitioner permitted by law and by the organization to provide care and services, without direction or supervision, within the scope of the practitioner license and consistent with individually assigned clinical responsibilities. When standards reference the term "licensed independent practitioner," this language is not to be construed to limit the authority of a licensed independent practitioner to delegate tasks to other qualified health care personnel (for example, physician assistants and advance practice registered nurses) to the extent authorized by state law or a state's regulatory mechanism or federal guidelines, and organizational policy.