



**Q. Tell me about your organization's decision to work with The Joint Commission.**

**Simon:** Several Ignite facilities were already accredited by The Joint Commission and we wanted the facility in Bartlesville to be the first one in Oklahoma to have that distinction, too. Shelby and I were probably the most hands-on in the organization when it came to prepping for the survey, first on the nursing side and then for the entire building. We tried to make sure that we were as compliant as possible before the survey even began.

**Q. What other steps did you take to prepare?**

**Simon:** We did a virtual mock survey, and there were issues that we discovered in the process. So, that was a great learning experience as well. It gave us time to address those issues and be even more prepared for the actual



**Q. How did Joint Commission accreditation impact patients?**

**Garrison:** Patient education, for one. Making sure that if a patient is diabetic or on dialysis, for instance, that we focus on helping that patient in the long term, even though we are not a long-term care facility. It helped us reinforce parameters around pain scale and medications, from Tylenol to Norco.

**Q. What advice would you give organizations considering accreditation through The Joint Commission?**

**Simon:** All our prep work definitely helped. Also, we engaged a consulting firm to help us prepare, and they used the forms that The Joint Commission provides. That certainly helped make the process easier. We had a great experience and the entire staff learned from it. It helped make us a bigger, stronger team, so I would definitely say “do it.”

**Q. Your facility is the first of its kind accredited by The Joint Commission in Oklahoma. What does that mean to your organization, staff and patients?**

**Simon:** We have always been proud of providing the best quality care, and accreditation was one more way to stand by that. We have an awesome team that are always striving to improve where we can. We are especially proud being the first in Oklahoma to obtain this accreditation as it is one more tool that we can use to not just promote ourselves, but to help show that we provide the best care possible.