

While visiting Dialysis Facility Compare, take a look at other areas of www.medicare.gov on the web.

- **MyMedicare.gov**—Register at MyMedicare.gov to get personalized information, like tracking your health care claims and preventive services you can use, or for information about Medicare health and prescription drug plans.
- **Compare Medicare Prescription Drug Plans**—Get a list of available plans and costs, find out which drugs are covered, and join a plan.
- **Compare Health Plans and Medigap Policies**—Answer simple questions and get personalized health plan information to help you compare health plans and Medigap policies in your area.
- **Compare Hospitals**—Compare hospitals in your area by seeing how often hospitals have provided recommended treatments for certain medical conditions.
- **Compare Nursing Homes**—Compare nursing homes in your area by specific features, quality information, state inspection results, and nursing staff information.
- **Find Out What Medicare Covers**—Understand what health care services are covered under the Original Medicare Plan, and how much Medicare pays.

CMS Pub. No.— 10208
Revised March 2007

Dialysis Facility Compare

On www.medicare.gov

Guide to Medicare Certified Dialysis Facilities

*My Health.
My Medicare.*

CMS
CENTERS for MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES



An important tool is available for you at www.medicare.gov on the web. Select “Dialysis Facility Compare.” This tool gives you detailed information about Medicare-certified dialysis facilities and lets you compare facilities in your area and around the country. The information helps you compare **facility services** and **quality measures**.

Dialysis Facility Services include

- the name, address, and telephone number of the facility,
- the date the facility was first certified for Medicare,
- shifts starting at 5:00 p.m. or later,
- the number of hemodialysis treatment stations,
- the types of dialysis offered,
- the facility ownership type (profit or non-profit), and
- the organization or corporation that owns or manages the dialysis facility.

Quality Measures include information about

- the percentage of patients at a facility who got adequate hemodialysis,
- the percentage of patients at a facility treated for anemia (low blood count), whose anemia was adequately managed, and
- patient survival information.

Quality is how well the facility treats its patients. Good quality dialysis care means doing the right thing at the right time, in the right way for the right person—and getting the best possible results. Each quality measure is explained in detail. You are told how the information is gathered and calculated. You also can read about what these quality measures mean to a person getting dialysis.

You can also compare the facility services and quality measures for the facilities in the area you select. This will show you how the facilities you’ve selected compare with state and national averages.

H

ow to Use Dialysis Facility Compare

First, visit www.medicare.gov on the web. Under “Search Tools,” select “Compare Dialysis Facilities in Your Area.”

Step 1. Decide how you want to search. You have a choice in how you search for dialysis facilities. You can search by Dialysis Facility name, within a certain distance of a city or ZIP code, or within a state or county.

To search by

- **name**, enter at least the first two letters of the facility name and select a state.
- **city**, type in a city name, select the state or territory that the city is in, and select the maximum distance from the city that you want to search.
- **ZIP code**, enter a ZIP code and select the maximum distance from the ZIP code you want to search.
- **state or county**, use the drop down list to select the state.

Select Next Step to continue.

Step 2. Select Dialysis Facilities.

Select the dialysis facilities you would like to get more information about. If you select more than one facility, you will be able to compare the information on all the dialysis facilities you choose.

Select “Next Step” to continue.

After step 2, you will get the results of your search. The Contact Information display on this page gives you contact information for your local ESRD* Network and State Survey Agency. These agencies help make sure that dialysis facilities provide quality care. You may use these contacts to get more information about dialysis or if you have a concern about your dialysis care.

Use the tabs at the top of the page to compare dialysis facility services and dialysis facility quality information. You can also view and print individual summaries for each dialysis facility. Use these summaries when you talk with your doctor about a dialysis facility or when you call or visit a dialysis facility.

At the “Resources” tab in Dialysis Facility Compare, there are other features that will give you the information you need. These features include

Publications—View or print booklets that can help you understand kidney disease, dialysis, and Medicare coverage.

Frequently Asked Questions—Get answers to questions you have about kidney disease, treatment, and quality measures.

Related Websites—Find other websites that provide information about kidney disease, dialysis, and transplants. You can also find websites for children, parents, and caregivers.

Glossary—Gives definitions about dialysis related terms used on the website including definitions for facility services, treatments, and quality measures. The glossary section also has a link that will take you to a kidney disease dictionary.

Quality Concerns—Get information on what to do if you have a concern or complaint about the quality of care you get from a dialysis facility.

Patient Rights and Responsibilities—Find out what your rights are as a person with kidney disease.

Kidney Dictionary—Get definitions of commonly used terms from the kidney disease dictionary provided by National Institutes of Health. Use the link found at this sub-tab to view this dictionary.

Patient Checklist—Learn important questions to ask your care providers and dialysis facility.

* ESRD stands for End-Stage Renal Disease, which is permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant.