

**Design for Nursing Home Compare Five-Star Quality Rating System:
Technical Users' Guide
Updates Included in the March 2009 version**

The March 2009 version of the Users' Guide includes a number of updates:

- State-level cut point tables have been moved into a new document: Five-Star Quality Rating System: State-Level Cut Point Tables (see CMS webpage: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/CertificationandCompliance/13_FSQRS.asp) (page 9)
- Removal of Table A3 – information is contained in Tables 3 and 4 in the text (pages 9,10)
- Added link to downloadable file containing facility-level “expected” and “reported” staffing times that are used in the staffing star calculations (page 9)

**Technical Users' Guide
State-Level Cut Point Tables
Updates Included in the March 2009 version**

The March 2009 version is the first edition of the State-Level Cut-Point Tables document. It contains:

- Brief description of each Five-Star domain for which State-level cut points are used (pages 1,2)
- Updated State-level cut point tables for:
 - Health Inspection Scores (pages 3,4)
 - ADL QM Late Loss ADL Worsening (pages 5,6)
 - ADL QM Worsening Locomotion (pages 7,8)

**Technical Users' Guide
Updates Included in the July 2009 version**

- Change in methodology for assigning revisit points (page 4)
- Change in methodology for assigning points to past noncompliance deficiencies (page 5)

Technical Users' Guide
Updates Included in the September 2009 version

- Rating for a given facility is held constant unless new health inspection data (e.g. a new health inspection survey, new complaint information or a 2nd, 3rd or 4th revisit) become available (page 6)
- Facility's rating will not change from month to month without new survey information from the facility, regardless of changes in the State wide distribution due to new surveys in other facilities (page 6)

Technical Users' Guide
Updates Included in the October 2009 version

- As of October 2009 the QM data listed on Nursing Home Compare will represent an average of three quarters of data. This replaces the one quarter of QM data previously displayed and matches the data used for the Five-Star calculation.

Technical Users' Guide
Updates Included in the January 2010 version

- CMS calculates the cutpoints for the health inspection ratings and the two ADL QMs on a state level. These cutpoints are not fixed. However, while the cutpoints for the health inspection ratings may change from month to month, a facility's rating will not change until there are new survey results for that facility. Quality measure ratings are not held constant. A facility that has had no change in its reported quality measures could have a change in the quality measure star rating based on a shift in the cutpoints for the two ADL quality measures (Page 17).

Technical Users' Guide
Updates Included in the July 2010 version

- In the July 2010 TUG, we edited the wording on page 4 under the scoring rules for Health Inspection Results to remove some ambiguous wording.