



QUICK GUIDE

Dialysis Facility Care Compare

INTRODUCTION

About Dialysis Facility Care Compare (DFCC)



The Dialysis Facility Care Compare (DFCC) on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) is hosted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and has information about dialysis clinics and the care they provide.

A key feature of the DFCC on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) is the Quality of Patient Care Star Rating, which provides a simple summary of the quality of care a dialysis clinic provides. CMS developed the Quality of Patient Care Star Rating in response to a national call for greater transparency in how to measure the quality of care for patients with kidney disease and consumers' desire to use health care quality data to make informed decisions. The Quality of Patient Care Star Rating was implemented in 2015.

The DFCC on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) also includes star ratings from patient experience surveys collected through the In-Center Hemodialysis (ICH) Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) survey. Results from the survey are displayed as 1 to 5 stars based on how patients rated their facility.

DFCC on Medicare.gov Goals & Target Audiences



The goal of the DFCC on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) is to give all members of the kidney disease community access to up-to-date information about dialysis care. The information on DFCC on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) can be used by patients, researchers, and health care providers:

- Patients find clinics and compare quality of care using the star ratings
- Health care researchers study end-stage renal disease dialysis patient outcomes and facility care
- Dialysis clinic staff see where they can improve quality of care

CMS regularly updates the DFCC on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) with new information and works closely with the kidney disease community to make sure the quality measures reported on the website reflect best practices of care for ESRD patients on dialysis.

CMS also regularly meets with members of the kidney disease community in numerous ways, including patient focus groups, conference calls, webinars, and Technical Expert Panels (TEPs). In 2018, the DFCC team hosted discussions with kidney disease patients about how they learn about dialysis treatment options and choose a facility. The focus groups helped the DFCC team learn how patients make care-based decisions, receive information on their treatment, and select a dialysis provider.

CMS always welcomes comments, suggestions, and feedback on our work with the kidney disease community. Please send your comments to dialysisdata@umich.edu.





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WEBSITE NAVIGATION

What's on Dialysis Facility Care Compare on Medicare.gov



Users can search the DFCC on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) for dialysis facilities by location. Users can also include a specific name. Available information about clinics includes

- Star rating for quality of care
- Star rating for patient experience
- Distance from your home
- Hours (whether you can receive treatments after 5 pm)
- Treatments offered (in-center hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis)
- Home hemodialysis training offerings
- Number of hemodialysis stations
- Clinical quality measure results
- Patient survey results, shown next to state and national averages
- Profit/nonprofit status & corporate name
- Date of Medicare certification

Website Navigation



The DFCC on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) home page features a list of provider types. Users can select their location and the facility type.

- [About this tool](#) –provides basic information about what the tool can do
- [Resources and information](#) –shares links with information about the facilities types covered on Care Compare
- [Info for health care providers](#) –shares links to resources

DATA & MEASURE UPDATES

Data Update Schedule

Data on the DFCC on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) are Data Update Schedule typically updated, depending on the measure, in:



The ICH CAHPS Survey is administered twice a year, and CMS refreshes the data on the DFCC on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) twice a year.

Outreach around data and measure updates

The DFCC team announces data and measure refreshes through emails, national conference calls and webinars, and on the DFCC on [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) itself. Past webinar materials are posted on the [ESRD General Information page](#).

ACRONYMS

CMS
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

DFCC
Dialysis Facility Care Compare

ESRD
End-Stage Renal Disease

ICH CAHPS
In-Center Hemodialysis Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems

TEP
Technical Expert Panel

[medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov)

U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

