

NURSING HOME COMPARE MEASURES



WHAT IS NURSING HOME COMPARE?

Nursing Home (NH) Compare is an effort by the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to provide families and caregivers with quality of care and staffing information for over 15,000 Medicare & Medicaid participating NHs nationwide. Families and caregivers can search for the best NHs at <https://www.medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare/search.html>.

WHAT ARE QUALITY MEASURES?

Quality Measures are pieces of data Medicare uses to measure the quality of specific areas of NH care. These measures are then scored, making up one major piece of the five-star rating, which ranks NHs across the country. NH Nurses and staff can help improve a NH's quality measure rating by understanding the measures that make up the score, and acting to improve upon them.

Why are Quality Measures important?

CMS assigns an overall 5-star rating to NHs to help families and caregivers understand how well a specific facility is performing, and compare several NHs. The rating is based on 3 parts (each of which also has an individual rating):

- 1) Health inspections; 2) Quality measures (QMs) and 3) Staffing.

A high QM score will help result in a higher overall QM 5-star rating for the NH.

- 5-stars = top 25% of NHs
- 4-stars = middle 20% of NHs
- 3-stars = middle 20% of NHs
- 1-star = bottom 15% of NHs

Individual quality measures ratings range from 275-1350.

Rating	Quality Measures Stars
275-669	1 star ★
670-759	2 stars ★★
760-829	3 stars ★★★
830-904	4 stars ★★★★
905-1350	5 stars ★★★★★

Examples of Quality Measures - by percentage of residents with these conditions

- 1+ falls with major injury
- Ability to move independently worsened
- Need for help with daily activities has increased
- Catheter inserted and left in their bladder
- Self-reported moderate to severe pain
- Urinary tract infection
- Pressure ulcers
- Physically restrained
- Received an antipsychotic, antianxiety or hypnotic medication

Reducing the number of residents with these conditions will lead to a higher overall rating for the individual NH.

Using interventions can improve the quality of care and result in a higher rating. For example:

- A falls prevention program can help reduce falls resulting in major injuries.
- Regular medication reviews can help reduce improper use of antipsychotic medications.