
MEDICARE COMPARE

(Formerly Dialysis Facility Compare DFC)

What is Medicare Compare?

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently combined their 8 original Compare sites giving you one place to locate information about specific dialysis clinics and the care they provide. You can also learn information about other providers, like nursing homes and hospitals. The website is www.medicare.gov/care-compare. Medicare Compare helps you compare dialysis centers in your area or where you plan to travel.

The Medicare Compare website provides the following information:

- * Address and phone number
- * Shifts starting after 5:00 p.m.
- * Types of dialysis offered (in-center or home dialysis)
- * Facility ownership (profit or nonprofit)
- * Number of hemodialysis chairs
- * Star ratings for quality of patient care and patient experience of care. (These ratings show how well a dialysis center provides care compared to the national average. One star is the lowest rating, and 5 stars is the highest rating.)

Why should I use Medicare Compare?

If you're new to dialysis or planning to travel, Medicare Compare can help you find the best clinic for you.

- * Medicare Compare can help you learn more about clinics in your area
- * Medicare Compare allows you to search for dialysis centers closest to a particular city or zip code
- * You can compare dialysis centers and find the right one for you
- * You can use the site to learn how Medicare measures the quality of care dialysis centers give

Please take a moment to complete a short survey about this Handout, we appreciate your feedback:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DFCUserEval>

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The Medicare Compare Dialysis Facility Menu

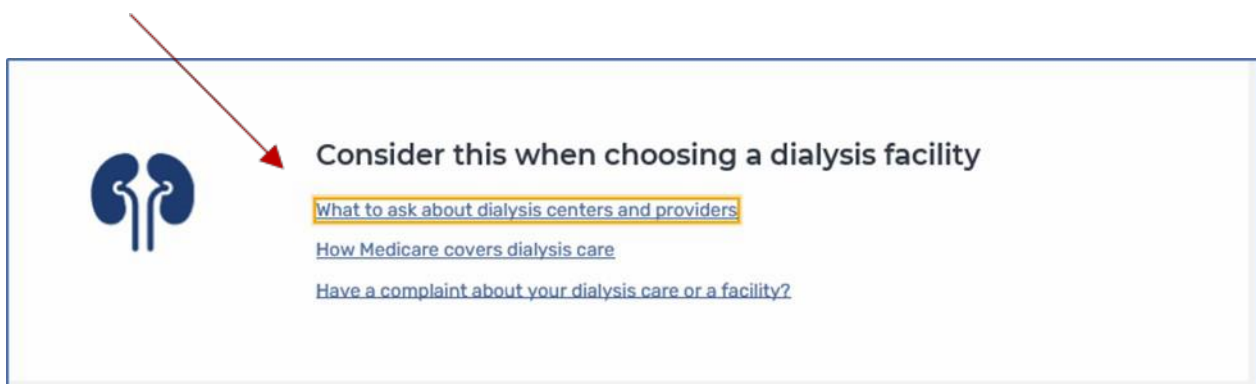
When you choose a dialysis facility you can view the following tabs for more information:

- * **Services Offered:** Use this tab to learn about the type of dialysis services offered at the facility
- * **Ratings:** This tab provides information about the data used for the quality rating and how Medicare calculates this rating. The patient survey star ratings come from a survey that asks patients about their experiences with their dialysis facility. You can learn how the patient survey rating is measured.
- * **Details:** Use this tab to learn the number of hemodialysis stations, ownership type, corporate name, and the date the facility was certified or recertified by Medicare.

Helpful Tips:

Medicare Compare provides good information. You should use it along with other information when choosing the right facility for you or your loved one. You should:

- * Talk to your doctor about your choices
- * Visit the centers that interest you
- * Talk to the dialysis center staff and patients
- * Review the 'Consider this when choosing a dialysis facility' located at the bottom of your dialysis facility compare search page to learn helpful information and obtain a checklist to help you choose a dialysis facility.

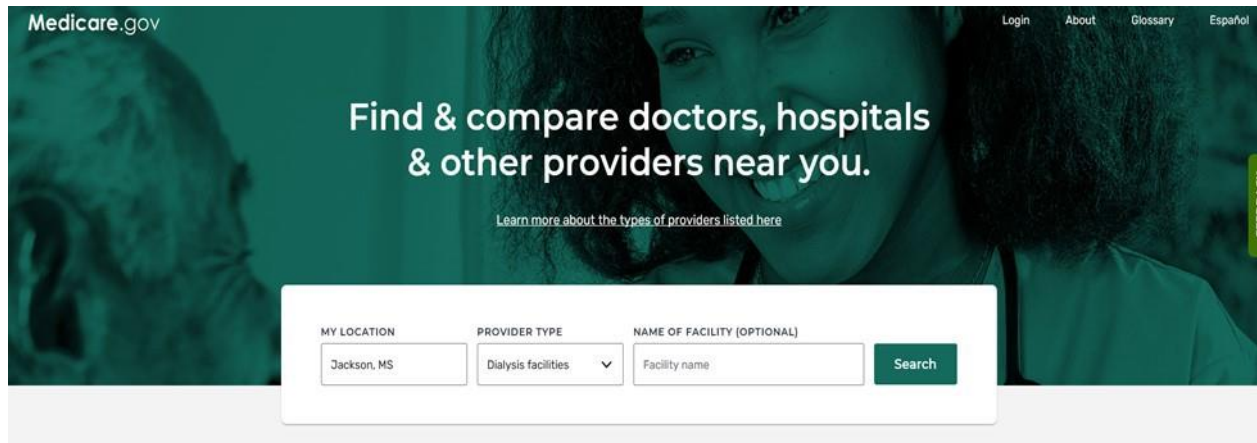


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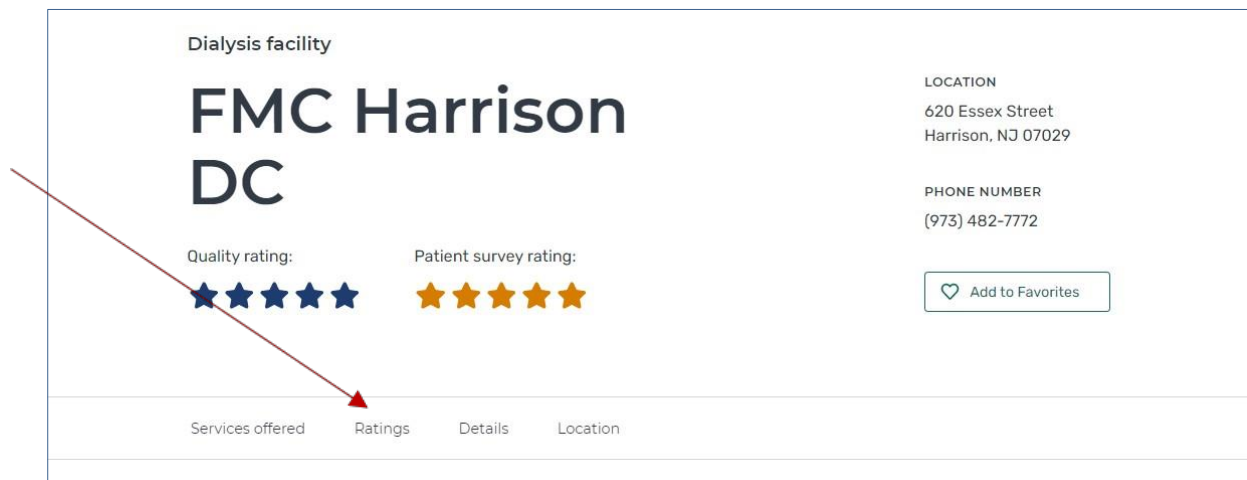
How to Use Medicare Compare

1. Go to: www.medicare.gov/care-compare
2. Enter the location by zip code or city and state. You will also need to choose “dialysis facilities” as the provider type. The facility name is optional. Then click search.



The screenshot shows the Medicare.gov search page. At the top, it says "Find & compare doctors, hospitals & other providers near you." Below this is a search form with three fields: "MY LOCATION" (containing "Jackson, MS"), "PROVIDER TYPE" (a dropdown menu set to "Dialysis facilities"), and "NAME OF FACILITY (OPTIONAL)" (containing "Facility name"). A green "Search" button is to the right of the fields. Above the search form, there are links for "Login", "About", "Glossary", and "Español".

3. Select the dialysis facility you would like to learn about. You can choose up to 3 facilities to compare.
4. Review the facility information. You can click on ratings to view the details of the quality rating and patient survey rating. Viewing the quality rating details will show you whether a dialysis facility's rate for each measure is better than expected, as expected, or worse than expected compared to other facilities that treat similar patients. Viewing the survey details will show the facility's results of the ICH-CAHPS survey and a comparison to the state and national averages for each survey question. You can learn more about the methodologies used to calculate the star rating, survey of patients' experiences, and quality of care measures by clicking on learn how Medicare calculates this rating.



The screenshot shows the Medicare Compare page for a dialysis facility named "FMC Harrison DC". The facility name is prominently displayed in large, bold letters. Below the name, there are two star ratings: "Quality rating" (5 blue stars) and "Patient survey rating" (5 yellow stars). To the right of the ratings, there is contact information: "LOCATION" (620 Essex Street, Harrison, NJ 07029) and "PHONE NUMBER" ((973) 482-7772). Below the contact information is a button that says "Add to Favorites". At the bottom of the page, there are four tabs: "Services offered", "Ratings", "Details", and "Location". A red arrow points from the "Ratings" tab to the "Quality rating" stars.