



**Care Compare and Payment Year 2021 End-Stage Renal Disease Quality Incentive Program (ESRD QIP)
Scores
January 2021 Release Q&A**

What is Care Compare, formerly known as Dialysis Facility Compare?

<https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare/> is a website that allows patients and health centers to view and compare quality data about dialysis facilities. CMS also uses these data, organized into a series of measures, to create a star rating system that can help patients make educated decisions about where to get their dialysis treatments.

What is the announcement?

Normally, Dialysis Facility Compare is updated quarterly, in January, April, July, and October each year. As CMS previously announced in an [Interim Final Rule with Comment Period](#), because the response to COVID-19 may have impacted data collection, CMS will have data submission exceptions in its programs or for public reporting. This impacts available data for Care Compare and means that January, April, and July 2021 refreshes of Care Compare will not take place. Instead, data from the October 2020 release will remain on Care Compare until October 2021.

CMS will continue to monitor and evaluate the impact of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency on the data for the measures and will provide additional guidance on future releases of Care Compare data at a later date.

What information will be available?

The information from the October 2020 release will remain on the sites. Today, Payment Year 2021 End-Stage Renal Disease Quality Incentive Program (ESRD QIP) scores will be released on <https://data.cms.gov/provider-data/search?theme=Dialysis%20facilities>. Prior ESRD QIP payment year data will be archived and available to download.

Who is affected by the release?

Care Compare displays ratings of the quality of care provided by dialysis facilities based on a series of quality measures. Facilities have had their individual measure scores updated based on the latest data for a number of these quality measures. Facilities had an opportunity to review the data and raise any concerns with CMS before the release goes live.

Important! Dialysis Facility Compare has gone away, but you can find the same information about Dialysis Facility Compare and other health care providers on Care Compare on Medicare.gov. The Provider Data Catalog on CMS.gov also makes it easier for you to search & download our publicly reported data.

Direct links to the tools & additional resources

Care Compare on Medicare.gov - <https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare/>

Care Compare resources for consumers and partners – [Medicare blog](#), [Promotional video](#), [Conference card](#)



Provider Data Catalog on CMS.gov - <https://data.cms.gov/provider-data/>

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