



Dialysis Facility Compare February 2019 Refresh Q&A

What is Dialysis Facility Compare?

[Dialysis Facility 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 February 2019 refresh?

The February refresh is one of a series updates made each year to the data featured on Dialysis Facility Compare. The last refresh was in October 2018. The new data will go live on February 8, 2019.

What is changing in the February 2019 refresh?

With the February 2019 refresh, patients and facilities can now see the latest data from dialysis facilities on the [Dialysis Facility Compare website](#). The following measures on Dialysis Facility Compare were updated with new data:

- Adult and pediatric patients who had enough waste removed from their blood during hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis
- Adult patients who had too much calcium in their blood
- Anemia management
- Phosphorus concentrations in the blood
- Proportion of adult hemodialysis patients who received treatment through an arteriovenous fistula
- Proportion of adult hemodialysis patients who had a catheter (tube) left in a vein longer than 90 days, for regular hemodialysis treatments
- Measurement of the daily dietary protein intake (normalized protein catabolic rate [nPCR]) for pediatric hemodialysis patients

The following measures will continue to be displayed from the October 2018 refresh:

- Frequency of patient death, hospital admission, or readmission
- Rate of transfusions
- Preventing bloodstream infections: standardized infection ratio
- Quality of patient care star rating
- Patient experience of care star rating

Who is affected by the refresh?

Dialysis Facility 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 refresh goes live on February 8. Overall star ratings won't change with this refresh.

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