

Understanding Measures, Star Ratings, and Quality Outcomes

January 17, 2018
2:00-3:00 P.M. ET



Agenda

Topic	Speaker
Dialysis Facility Compare Star Ratings Overview	Elena K. Balovlenkov, MS, RN, CHN Technical Lead, Dialysis Facility Compare, Division of Quality Measurement, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid
Dialysis Facility Compare Status Update	Elena K. Balovlenkov, MS, RN, CHN
Dialysis Facility Compare – New Measures Dialysis Facility Compare Measure Implementation Process	Joel Andress, PhD ESRD Measures Development Lead, Division of Quality Measurement, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Questions	

Dialysis Facility Compare Star Ratings Overview

Elena K. Balovlenkov, MS, RN, CHN
*Division of Quality Measurement,
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Background

- » The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) developed the Dialysis Facility Compare (DFC) Star Ratings in response to a national call for greater transparency in how the agency measures the quality of kidney care and health care consumers' desire to use health care quality data to make informed decisions.

DFC Star Ratings Highlights

Date	Activity
June 2014	Star Ratings announcement
January 2015	DFC 2014 Star Ratings release
April 2015	Technical Expert Panel (TEP) review
October 2015	DFC 2015 Star Ratings release
December 2015	TEP discussion of April 2015 report
February – March 2016	Public comment period
June 2016	Public call on Star Ratings methodology
August 2016	Public call on measure updates
October 2016	DFC 2016 Star Ratings refresh
October – December 2016	Announcement of Candidate Measures and Public Comment Period
February 2017	Technical Expert Panel (TEP) review
October 2017	October 2018 Technical Report Available

Including the Patient Voice

- » CMS continues to believe that DFC is intended to support patients seeking information on kidney care.
- » We continue to reach out to the community for ideas and suggestions on how to improve.
 - To this end, DFC is conducting usability testing of the website to ensure that it is easy to use and displays correctly on tablets and smartphones
- » We also continue to develop tools to help the community educate health care professionals, patients, and caregivers about DFC.

Patient Summit Overview

- » On April 3, 2017, NORC at the University of Chicago, with support from the American Association of Kidney Patients, conducted a five-hour discussion with ESRD patients and one caregiver.
- » Patients were members of five national organizations representing the interests of ESRD patients.
- » 12 patients participated in the meeting.
- » This feedback session was the first time DFC leveraged relationships with patient advocacy organizations in the kidney community to dually:
 - Receive broad patient input on the website
 - Engage patients

Key Patient Summit Takeaways

- » Patients want and seek resources specific to their current stage of disease and health status.
- » Current depictions of ESRD and ESRD patients do not always represent the range of patient experiences, and many feel they are too negative.
- » Information about treatment options and quality should be proactively provided directly into the hands of patients who might not otherwise seek it out.
- » Medicare is a trusted source of information.

Patient Summit Next Steps

- » Look for opportunities to incorporate feedback into DFC, where possible. For example:
 - Reorganize existing content to address different stages of kidney disease
 - Address patients' sensitivities around terminology and depictions of patients
- » Consider feedback in the bigger picture of DFC's future development.
- » Consider a future meeting with less-engaged patients to understand their perspectives and how DFC can help them engage in their kidney care.

Dialysis Facility Compare Status Update

Elena K. Balovlenkov, MS, RN, CHN
Division of Quality Measurement, CMS

October 2017 DFC Status Update

- » CMS did not publish the data from the Quarterly Dialysis Facility Compare—Preview for October 2017 Report on Dialysis Facility Compare.
- » Star Ratings and some measure values available since July 2017 will remain on Dialysis Facility Compare.

January 2018 DFC Status Update

- » The following measures will be updated on the DFC site in January 2018 (previewed to facilities in November 2017):
 - The Standardized Transfusion Ratio
 - The Standardized Mortality Ratio
 - The Standardized Hospitalization Ratio
 - The Standardized Readmission Ratio
 - Vascular Access Type (Fistula and Catheter measures)
 - NHSN Bloodstream Infection
 - In-Center Hemodialysis CAHPS

- » The following measures will not be updated in January 2018:
 - Kt/V*
 - Proportion of patients with Hypercalcemia

*includes all four measures: Pediatric HD Kt/V, Adult HD Kt/V, Pediatric PD Kt/V, Adult PD Kt/V

Dialysis Facilities Should Know

- » During the July/August 2017 Preview Period it was determined that there was incomplete nursing home data for calendar year 2016 for most dialysis facilities in 11 states.
- » The following measures were recalculated for all facilities using the more complete nursing home data and previewed in November 2017:
 - Standardized Mortality Ratio
 - Standardized Hospitalization Ratio
 - Standardized Transfusion Ratio
- » Most facilities will notice a small change to these measures.
- » The revised measure calculations were available for facilities during the November 2017 preview period and will be posted on Dialysis Facility Compare in January 2018.

April 2018 DFC Status Update

- » The following measures will be updated on the DFC site in April 2018 (previewed to facilities in February 2018):
 - Vascular Access Type (Fistula and Catheter measures) (July 2016 – June 2017 Data)
 - In-Center Hemodialysis CAHPS
 - Kt/V* (July 2016 – June 2017 Data)
 - Proportion of patients with Hypercalcemia (July 2016 – June 2017 Data)
 - DFC Star Ratings (Most Recent Data Available)

*includes all four measures: Pediatric HD Kt/V,
Adult HD Kt/V, Pediatric PD Kt/V, Adult PD Kt/V

Dialysis Facilities Should Know

- » The individual measure calculations will be updated on their normal schedule for the April Release, including data from July 2016 – June 2017.
- » The Standardized Measures that will be released in January 2018 will remain on the site, including data from calendar year 2016.
- » ***The Star Ratings will be calculated with the most recent data available.***
- » The preview period will be held from February 1–15, 2018.

Dialysis Facilities Should Know

- » Recalculating the Kt/V, Hypercalcemia, and Phosphorus Measures:
 - A subset of patients who had clinical data included in CROWNWeb but did not have a 2728 form available in the CROWNWeb system on the date the extract was created had clinical data removed from the extract. These measures will be recalculated with complete data once it becomes available.

- » To be included in the data extract used to calculate DFC Measures, the following criteria must be met for CROWNWeb Data:
 - The record for the patient/provider/month must be in the “Submitted” state. Records that are in the “Saved” state will not be included.
 - The record for the patient/provider/month must not have the “No Clinical Data Available” flag set in order to retrieve any values.

DFC October 2019 Release Measure Candidates

Joel Andress, PhD

*ESRD Measures Development Lead,
Division of Quality Measurement, CMS*

DFC October 2019 Release: Measure Candidates

- » Percentage of Prevalent Patients Waitlisted (PPPW)
- » Standardized First Kidney Transplant Waitlist Ratio for Incident Dialysis Patients (SWR)

Questions

Resources

- » Information about measure specifications and the Star Ratings methodology can be found in the CMS End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Measures Manual: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/ESRDQIP/Downloads/CMS-ESED-Measures-Manual-2017-v2-5-2-17.pdf>

Questions?

- » For additional questions about the Star Ratings methodology or measure specifications, please email the UM-KECC helpdesk at dialysisdata@umich.edu.
- » For questions about CROWNWeb data submission, contact the QualityNet helpdesk at (866) 288-8912 or <http://help.mycrownweb.org/>.
- » For questions about the ICH CAHPS® Survey contact the project team at <https://ichcahps.org>.

Thank you!