

MY NETWORK: DIALYSIS FACILITY COMPARE (DFC)



Heartland Kidney
Network

We're Here For You.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) are interested in the quality of care you receive at your dialysis clinic. CMS would like to share the quality indicators and information with dialysis patients. To assist with this goal, they have a website called "Dialysis Facility Compare". This website allows everyone the ability to compare quality, search for other clinics, and find out what types of treatments they have (in-center, home and nocturnal hemodialysis and peritoneal). Whether you are interested in traveling, vacationing, or simply want to know how your clinic is doing compared to other dialysis clinics, Dialysis Facility Compare can help you get the information you need at <http://www.medicare.gov/Dialysis/Home/asp>.

What information can I find on the DFC website?

- The address and phone number for the clinic
- The date the clinic was certified by Medicare
- The number of chairs or treatment stations
- Shifts offered at the clinic (including evening shifts)
- The types of dialysis provided (hemodialysis, home hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis)
- Whether the clinic is for profit or non-profit including corporate affiliation of the clinic
- Network Organization & State Survey Information

How do I use DFC?

Options to Locate a Clinic:

- By Name—if you want to find a clinic by name, click on "Dialysis Facility Name"
- By Proximity or Geography—if you want to find all dialysis clinics within a certain distance in miles or within a certain area, click on "City" or "Zip Code", "State" or "County".

The Patient Tools Section includes:

- Questions to ask your doctor, nurses, dietitian and social worker
- Check lists of things to look for when changing dialysis clinics, infection control measures in the dialysis clinic, and clinic policies and procedures
- Your rights and responsibilities as a dialysis patient

Compare Quality Section includes:

- The number of patients with a Urea Reduction Ratio (URR) of 65 or greater, also known as adequacy
- The number of patients treated with erythropoietin (Epogen) and those with a hematocrit greater than 33
- Whether or not patients at the clinic survive better than expected, as expected, or worse than expected

MY QUESTIONS

Ask your Care Team: Can you help me find a clinic using the Dialysis Facility Compare website? If I want to travel, what information should I look for on DFC?

For more information or to file a grievance please contact the Heartland Kidney Network at: Heartland Kidney Network • 7306 NW Tiffany Springs Pkwy. • Suite 230 • Kansas City, MO 64153
Toll-Free Patient Line: (800) 444-9965 • net12@nw12.esrd.net • www.heartlandkidney.org

End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) #12 Network Coordinating Council, Inc. dba Heartland Kidney Network. This resource was (created, developed, compiled, etc.) while under contract with Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Baltimore, Maryland.
Contract #HHS-500-2010-NW012C. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy.