

Information for Consumers – NURSING HOME COMPARISONS

Nursing Home Compare

“Nursing Home Compare” is a website developed by federal agencies, to provide information to consumers on how to find nursing homes and compare the quality of services provided. The detailed information covers every Medicare and Medicaid-certified (Medical-certified in California) nursing home in the country and can be accessed by name of the facility, city, county, state or zip code. Ratings are reported as 1-5 stars, 5-Star (considered much above average) down to 1-Star (considered as having quality much below average). The rating is based on health inspections from the previous three years, staffing, and quality measures of care. You can also download helpful tools such as a guide to choosing a nursing home and a useful checklist. But before you get started, please remember that you or your family member may have other long-term care choices like community-based services, home care, or assisted living depending on your needs and resources. Information on these alternatives is also available on the website. Therefore, before making a decision, explore all possibilities and include a visit to the facility you are considering.

Your Guide to Long-Term Care in California

This website, provided by a partnership of California Healthcare Foundation and the University of California San Francisco, has information on evaluating the needs for type of care including nursing homes, home health care and others options. You can find nursing homes in specific zip codes and compare them based on staffing, quality of facility, quality of care, and finances and cost, by 1-3 star ratings: 3-star (above average), 2-star (average) and 1-star (below average). Details on each rating are posted.