"When we were looking at nursing homes for Mom, we checked the ratings, health inspection results, staffing information, and quality measures on Nursing Home Compare. Then, we visited the nursing homes we were considering to really get a good feel for them. Mom and I feel good about our decision."

Nursing Home Compare has detailed information about every Medicare and Medicaid-certified nursing home in the country.

For more information from Medicare

Medicare also has the following publications that can help you choose a nursing home:

- "Guide to Choosing a Nursing Home"
- "Medicare Coverage of Skilled Nursing Facility Care"
- "Medicare and Skilled Nursing Facility Benefits: Getting Started"

To read, print, or download these booklets visit www.medicare.gov and select, "Find a Medicare Publication." You can also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) to order a free copy. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

For help with long-term care decisions including finding a nursing home

Call your local Area Agency on Aging. For their number, call the Eldercare Locator at 1-800-677-1116 weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (EST) or visit www.eldercare.gov.

For American Indian/Alaska Natives contact your local Indian health provider for more information.

To report concerns about nursing home quality

Call your local Quality Improvement Organization. For their number, visit www.medicare.gov and select, "Find Helpful Phone Numbers and Websites."

Medicare's Nursing Home Compare



Need to find a nursing home? Nursing Home Compare can help.

www.medicare.gov/NHCompare

CMS Publication No. 11385 December 2008

Before you start looking for a nursing home

You or your family member may want to consider other long-term care alternatives like community based services, home care, or assisted living depending on your needs and resources. Find out more about these alternatives on Nursing Home Compare.



Nursing Home Compare

How to find a nursing home that best meets your needs:

- Visit www.medicare.gov/NHCompare, and follow the step-by-step instructions to find nursing homes in your area. Search by nursing home name, or by city, county, state, or ZIP code.
- Compare the following information about the nursing homes you are considering:
 - Five-Star Quality Ratings
 - Health inspection results
 - Nursing home staffing
 - Quality measures
 - Fire safety inspection results
- Visit the nursing homes you are considering or have someone visit for you. Review the "Guide to Choosing a Nursing Home" and take a copy of the Nursing Home Checklist when you visit. These publications are available on Nursing Home Compare.
- Talk to your doctor, your family, or friends about your choices. Contact the Long-Term Care Ombudsman or the State Survey Agency to get more information before you make a decision. Their phone numbers are listed on Nursing Home Compare.

There's more on Nursing Home Compare

Make an informed nursing home decision by using all the information on Nursing Home Compare:

- Paying for Nursing Home Care—Learn how nursing home care is paid for.
- **Nursing Home Checklist**—Learn what to look for and what questions to ask when you visit a nursing home.
- Your Rights as a Nursing Home Resident—Learn about your legal rights, like your right to privacy, respect, and other protections under the law.
- Alternatives to Nursing Homes—Learn about programs in your community that can help you get the care you need at home or in another setting.
- List of Contacts—Find important contacts like the Long-Term Care Ombudsman and your State Survey Agency.



www.medicare.gov/NHCompare