



Hospital Compare is a web based source of information about the quality of care at over 4,000 Medicare-certified hospitals. Hospital Compare can be used to find hospitals and compare the quality of their care. The information on Hospital Compare can help you make decisions about where you get your health care and it encourages hospitals to improve the quality of care they provide. Hospital Compare was created through the efforts of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) in collaboration with organizations representing consumers, hospitals, doctors, employers, accrediting organizations, and other Federal agencies.

Consumers can get a “snapshot” of the quality of the nation’s hospitals by looking at the following aspects of healthcare:

- **Timely and effective care:** How often and quickly each hospital gives recommended treatments for certain conditions like heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, children’s asthma, and for surgical patients.
- **Readmissions, complications and deaths:** How each hospital’s rates of readmission and death rates compare with the national rate, how likely patients will suffer from complications while in the hospital and how often patients in the hospital get certain serious conditions that could have been prevented if the hospital followed procedures based on best practices and scientific evidence.
- **Use of medical imaging:** How a hospital uses outpatient radiologic procedures
- **Survey of patients’ experiences:** How recently discharged patients responded to a national survey about their hospital experience. For example, how well did a hospital’s doctors and nurses communicate with patients and manage their pain?
- **Number of Medicare patients:** How many people with Medicare have had certain procedures or have been treated for certain conditions at each hospital.
- **Medicare payment:** Information about how much Medicare pays hospitals

Hospital Compare can be accessed at www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare.