

# Dialysis Facility Care Compare on Medicare.gov (DFCC) January 2023 Refresh Questions and Answers

### What is Dialysis Facility Care Compare on Medicare.gov (DFCC)?

<u>Dialysis Facility Care Compare on Medicare.gov, formerly known as Dialysis Facility Compare,</u> is a website that allows patients and health centers to view and compare quality data about dialysis facilities. CMS also uses these data, organized into a series of measures, to create a star rating system that can help patients make educated decisions about where to get their dialysis treatments.

# What is the January 2023 refresh?

The January 2023 refresh is one of a series of updates made each year to the data featured on DFCC. New data is scheduled to be refreshed on January 18, 2023. The prior refresh was in November 2022.

# What is changing in the January 2023 refresh?

With the January 2023 refresh, the following measures on Dialysis Facility Care Compare will be updated with data from Calendar Year 2021:

- Adult and child patients who had enough waste removed from their blood during hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis
- Adult patients who had too much calcium in their blood
- Frequency of patient death, hospital admission, or readmission
- Frequency of transfusions
- Hemoglobin management (Downloadable Data Only)
- Phosphorus concentrations in the blood (Downloadable Data Only)
- Adult patients who received treatment through an arteriovenous fistula
- Adult patients who had a catheter (tube) left in a vein for at least 3 consecutive complete months, for their regular hemodialysis treatments
- Measurement of nPCR for Pediatric Hemodialysis Patients
- Patients who were on the kidney or kidney-pancreas transplant waiting list
- Transplant waitlist within a year of dialysis initiation

### Who is affected by the refresh?

DFCC displays ratings of the quality of care provided by dialysis facilities based on a series of quality measures. Facilities have had their individual measure scores updated based on the latest data for a number of these quality measures. Facilities had an opportunity to review the data and raise any concerns with CMS before the refresh went live. The Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings will not be updated during the January 2023 refresh. Star Ratings from October 2020 will continue to be visible on Medicare.gov.

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