

DFR and DFC – What do these mean?

Dialysis Facility Reports (DFR): Each year your facility receives a DFR. The information contained in this report facilitates comparisons of patient characteristics, treatment patterns, transplantation rates, hospitalization rates, and mortality rates to local and national averages. This report is provided as a resource for characterizing selected aspects of clinical experience at your facility relative to other providers in your state, ESRD Network, and across the United States. These data are useful for your quality assessment and performance improvement (QAPI) program. These reports also provide you with advance notice of the updated quality measures (urea reduction ratio, hemoglobin, and patient survival) for your facility that will be reported on the Dialysis Facility Compare (DFC) web site (see below).

These reports are mailed to the facility administrator and medical director as listed on the facility's roster information sent to the Network.

Look for the reports in late July of each year.

Dialysis Facility Compare (DFC) is a page on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) website. DFC allows patients to search for Medicare-approved dialysis facilities based on a city, state, or specific zip code. DFC provides data about dialysis facilities* including facility characteristics such as address and phone number, types of dialysis offered, facility ownership, whether a facility offers dialysis shifts after 5 pm, and number of dialysis treatment stations.

DFC also has information about quality measures such as:

- percent of patients with adequacy of hemodialysis - Urea Reduction Ratio of 65 or greater
- how many patients at a facility whose anemia (low red blood cell count) wasn't controlled (hemoglobin less than 10.0 g/dL or hemoglobin greater than 12.0 g/dL).
- patient survival information

There are also links to other websites, publications available by downloading, a glossary of terms, a list of useful contacts, and a kidney disease dictionary.

We encourage you to review the DFR and DFC information.

Please make sure patients are aware of the DFC website for quality measures.
It is also useful for locating facilities for transient care or transfers.

Information is available at <http://www.medicare.gov/dialysis>

***Note:** DFC attempts to include all Medicare-certified dialysis facilities; however, it may take several months for newly-approved facilities to appear on this site. Also, there are a few dialysis facilities operating without Medicare certification, and these facilities are NOT listed.