



Tuesday's Tip

information provided by Adriance Memorial Library to make your life a little bit easier

Choosing a Nursing Home

April 9, 2013

Have you ever had a patron come in, frantic because they have a relative who needs to live in a nursing home and they have no idea how to choose? There is help!

Try Medicare's "[Nursing Home Compare](http://www.medicare.gov/NursingHomeCompare)" page at (www.medicare.gov/NursingHomeCompare)

Put in your zip code and then click "Search Nursing Homes"

Nursing Home Compare

Find a Nursing Home

Required Search:
Location - ZIP Code or City, State or State
Example: 21244 or Baltimore, MD or Maryland

12601

Zipcode
12601

Nursing Home Name - Full or Partial

Search Nursing Homes

Nursing Home Compare has detailed information about every Medicare and Medicaid-certified nursing home in the country. Before you get started, 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. For more information, see [Alternatives to Nursing Homes](#).

Compare Other Providers and Plans

In addition to Nursing Home Compare, you may find the following sites helpful:

- Hospital Compare
- Physician Compare
- Home Health Compare
- Dialysis Facility Compare
- Medicare Plan Finder

Nursing Home Spotlight

Nursing Home Compare now has the following:

- You can now search for all nursing homes in a state.
- Ownership information including the names of individuals and organizations with ownership or managerial control of nursing homes

Use these helpful resources:

- Guide to Choosing a Nursing Home
- Nursing Home Checklist
- How we calculate ratings

Additional Information

- Learn about your **Rights as a Nursing Home Resident**
- Find State resources:
 - Long Term Care Ombudsman
 - State Survey Agency
- File a complaint with your State
- Learn about **Alternatives to Nursing Home Care**
- Download the **Nursing Home Compare Database**
- A Note about Accessing the **Compare Tool Data**

At the next screen you can pick up to three nursing homes to compare at one time by checking the checkboxes to the left of their names, then click “compare now”.

The screenshot shows the Medicare Nursing Home Compare results page. On the left, there is a sidebar with a map and search filters. The main area displays a list of nursing homes with checkboxes for selection. A red circle highlights the 'Compare Now' button, and an arrow points from the 'Find Nursing Homes' section to the list.

Choose up to three nursing homes to compare. So far you have selected:

- THE PINES AT POUGHKEEPSIE CTR FOR NRSG & REHAB
- RIVER VALLEY CARE CENTER INC
- WINGATE AT ULSTER

Compare Now

Viewing 1 - 20 of 21 First Prev 1 2 Next Last

| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NURSING HOME INFORMATION | DISTANCE | OVERALL RATING | HEALTH INSPECTIONS | STAFFING | QUALITY RATINGS |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A. RIVER VALLEY CARE CENTER INC 140 MAIN STREET POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601 (845) 454-7600 Program Participation: Medicare and Medicaid Add to my Favorites | 1.2 Miles | ★★★★★ Below Average | ★★★★★ Much Below Average | ★★★★★ Above Average | ★★★★★ Much Above Average |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | B. THE PINES AT POUGHKEEPSIE CTR FOR NRSG & REHAB 100 FRANKLIN STREET POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601 (845) 454-4100 Program Participation: Medicare and Medicaid Add to my Favorites | 1.9 Miles | ★★★★★ Below Average | ★★★★★ Average | ★★★★★ Much Below Average | ★★★★★ Above Average |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | C. WINGATE AT ULSTER ONE WINGATE WAY HIGHLAND, NY 12528 (845) 691-6800 Program Participation: Medicare and Medicaid Add to my Favorites | 3.2 Miles | ★★★★★ Above Average | ★★★★★ Average | ★★★★★ Above Average | ★★★★★ Above Average |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | D. HUDSON VALLEY REHAB AND EXT CARE FACILITY | 3.7 Miles | ★★★★★ Below | ★★★★★ Below Average | ★★★★★ Below | ★★★★★ Below |

You will see the three nursing homes and a great deal of information available to compare and contrast them. You can see the results of their most recent inspections as well as clicking the tabs to see the staff to patient ratio (staffing), quality measures and any penalties.

The screenshot shows the Medicare Nursing Home Compare website. The main heading is "Compare Nursing Homes". Below the heading are navigation buttons for "About Nursing Home Compare", "About the Data", "Resources", and "Help", along with a "PRINT ALL TABS" button. A "Back to Results" button is also present. The "General Information" tab is highlighted with a red circle. Below the tabs, three nursing homes are listed in columns:

- THE PINES AT POUGHKEEPSIE CTR FOR NRSg & REHAB**: 100 FRANKLIN STREET, POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601. (845) 454-4100. Overall Rating: Below Average (4 stars).
- RIVER VALLEY CARE CENTER INC**: 140 MAIN STREET, POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601. (845) 454-7600. Overall Rating: Below Average (4 stars).
- WINGATE AT ULSTER**: ONE WINGATE WAY, HIGHLAND, NY 12528. (845) 691-6800. Overall Rating: Above Average (5 stars).

Below the nursing home information is a table comparing various metrics:

| | THE PINES AT POUGHKEEPSIE CTR FOR NRSg & REHAB | RIVER VALLEY CARE CENTER INC | WINGATE AT ULSTER |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Overall Rating [?] | ★★★★★ Below Average | ★★★★★ Below Average | ★★★★★ Above Average |
| Health Inspection Rating [?] | ★★★★★ Average | ★★★★★ Much Below Average | ★★★★★ Average |
| Staffing Rating [?] | ★★★★★ Much Below Average | ★★★★★ Above Average | ★★★★★ Above Average |
| Quality Measure Rating [?] | ★★★★★ Above Average | ★★★★★ Much Above Average | ★★★★★ Above Average |
| Health Inspections Summary | Health Inspections Summary | Health Inspections Summary | Health Inspections Summary |
| Number of Certified Beds | 200 | 160 | 120 |
| Participation: [?] (Medicare/Medicaid) | Medicare and Medicaid | Medicare and Medicaid | Medicare and Medicaid |

This is a stressful decision for any family to make, but arming people with information will help to make it a little easier.