

MDS Alert

MDS & Survey News

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has posted more lists of facilities targeted for special assistance or monitoring.

Most recently, CMS released a national list of nursing homes targeted for quality improvement due to high-risk pressure ulcers or physical restraints based on MDS-driven quality measures publicly reported on Nursing Home Compare. The list is at www.cms.hhs.gov/QualityImprovementOrgs/Downloads/NursingHomeChart.pdf. [Quality improvement organizations will work with the designated facilities with a goal of reducing pressure ulcers and physical restraints.](#)

[CMS has also posted a list of facilities in its Special Focus Facility \(SFF\) program, categorizing them in various tables. Those in Table A are new to the SFF program, which targets nursing homes that fall on the lower end of survey performance in their states.](#)

[CMS created the SFF program in 1998 to give more attention to facilities with a poor record of survey performance. Facilities in Table B are ones that have not shown improvement. Table C includes ones making progress. Table D lists those that have graduated from the SFF program. To do that, a facility has to achieve survey results demonstrating no deficiencies greater than an E within 18 months, according to attorney **Howard Sollins** in Baltimore. Table E includes facilities no longer participating in Medicare and Medicaid.](#)

[Before releasing this most recent list of special focus facilities, CMS published a list of the 54 worst of the poor performing facilities in its SFF program.](#)