

DECEMBER 2009 – JANUARY 2010

HOSPITAL QUALITY, COST INFORMATION JUST A CLICK AWAY WITH THE ALLIANCE'S *QUALITYCOUNTS*™ REPORTS

All hospitals aren't created equal. Whether it's the cost or the quality of care, chances are your experiences will differ depending on where you go for your care. But how do you get the information to make the right decision? With The Alliance's *QualityCounts*™ reports, you're covered. We have the data you need to make an informed decision when it counts the most.

With our *QualityCounts* reports, you can access and compare facility-specific statistics on specific surgeries, birthing care or overall adult care, for example, from all of the hospitals that participate with The Alliance. By comparing costs and quality ratings, you can determine the right care location for yourself and your family. You might be surprised, but quality care doesn't necessarily cost more.

There are several ways to access these valuable reports. The simplest way is to visit the [QualityCounts Web page](#) and click "View Reports."

- If it is your first time logging in, you will need to enter your first initial and last name as your username. Your password is your birth date in the yyymmdd format. For example, Jane Smith, who was born on February 24, 1956, would enter "jsmith" and "19560224".
- Once you have entered that you will be asked to provide your e-mail address as your username and create a stronger password. Write these down as you will use them to access the report from this screen in the future.
- If you forget your password, click on "Forgot your password?" and enter your e-mail address and a new password will be e-mailed to you. Once you receive your new password, return to the login screen and login in with your e-mail address and your new password. You will be prompted to change your password again to something you can remember.

After logging in with your Alliance username and password, you'll be able look up and compare quality and cost information through all of the available online reports. There you'll also find our latest update, a new *QualityCounts* Hospital Inpatient Report just released in December 2009.

You can also access *QualityCounts* data for specific hospitals and care locations through The Alliance's online provider directory. To access the directory from The Alliance's home page (www.the-alliance.org), first click the "Find a Doctor" link (under "Quick Links" on the left-hand side). From this new page, again click the "Find a Doctor" logo on the left side to launch the online provider directory. There are several options for how to search for providers. Select the options that are right for you, click "Find Providers," and relevant hospitals and health care locations will appear. For those locations with *QualityCounts* data, click the *QualityCounts* logo and log-in to view specific quality and cost information for the corresponding care facility.

It's the perfect way to access useful information and make more informed decisions regarding your health care needs.

Links:

QualityCounts Home Page:

<http://the-alliance.org/qualitycounts.aspx>

The Alliance Online Provider Directory:

<http://www.geoaccess.com/Alliance/PO/begin.asp>