

## Nurse Force Receives 5 Star Rating

Sherri Lange, owner of Nurse Force, is proud to announce that Nurse Force received another prestigious recognition in July 2017—a 5 star rating from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)!

Over the past several years, CMS has been working toward the development of a 5-star rating system for home health care agencies, which would help consumers quickly and easily assess the patient experience of care information provided on the CMS site, Home Health Compare. Similar to the 5 star rating used for hotels and restaurants, consumers can now use the same rating scale to more easily compare home health agencies—the more stars received by an agency, the better the quality of care.

As you can imagine, home health agencies differ in the quality of care and services they provide to patients. The star ratings are based on 9 of the 27 quality measures which include items such as: patient wait for a first visit, thoroughness of explanations of drugs to a patient or caretaker, administration of a flu shot, hospital stays, and improvements in walking, getting in and out of bed, breathing, and movement with less pain.

According to Home Health Compare, of 9,359 agencies rated, only 239 received 5 stars and 2,218 received 4 or 4.5 stars. Nearly half of all agencies—46%—landed somewhere in the middle, receiving 3 or 3.5 stars, with 28% receiving lower ratings of 1.5 to 2.5 stars. Six agencies received only a single star.

Our goal at Nurse Force has always been to provide quality care to our clients and this recent recognition is validation of our progress in this endeavor. Our success is a direct reflection of the dedication and commitment of not only our Administrative staff but that of our nurses and aides working in our clients homes.

Choose Nurse Force for your home health care needs. We truly are one of the best! For more information or to establish services for a loved one, call us at 515-224-4566.