

# ABILITY | HOMECARE ELITE®

## 2017 Methodology

ABILITY® Network uses publicly available data from Home Health Compare and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Cost Reports to create the HomeCare Elite list of agencies. Five domains of performance were cumulatively analyzed – quality of care, quality improvement and consistency, patient experience (HHCAHPS), process measure implementation, and financial performance.

The quality of care, process measure implementation, and patient experience domains measure agency performance in each of the publicly-reported Home Health Compare measures. The quality improvement index is based on changes in the nine outcomes released in July 2016 and July 2017. The quality consistency score represents performance relative to the state norm in the quality measures over the past five years. The financial performance measure is based on Medicare profit margin for free-standing agencies from the 2016 CMS Cost Reports (or from 2015, adjusted, when 2016 data was not available).

Agency performance in each of the domains was compared against the performance of other organizations in their state and nationwide (including U.S. territories). The domains were combined into one overall score, using a weighting methodology that gives the greatest importance to quality of care. The top 25% of agencies in each region, both facility-based and free-standing, were identified and added to the national list. Plus, the top 100 and 500 agencies in the nation were recognized based on overall score.

**We are proud to partner with DecisionHealth** for this popular recognition program for the home care profession.

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