

# October Home Health Measures Released by Medicare on October 13<sup>th</sup>:

## Rhode Island Ranks Ahead of National Averages in Most Measurements

The most recent Oasis –C Home Health measures show that as a state, RI is scoring better higher than the national average in most measure. See chart which shows the outcome being measured; the RI average; the national average and ranking needed to be in the top 20%.

Many RIPHC members are scoring in the top 20%, which is thought to be the threshold for bonus payments under the Pay for Performance System. Congratulations to those agencies!!

To see how a specific agency scored and to compare one agency to another please click on the following link:

<http://www.medicare.gov/homehealthcompare/search.aspx>

For consumers wishing to compare one agency to another the following checklist may be helpful.

### *Home Health Agency Checklist*

Use Home Health Compare and call the home health agency to complete this checklist.

Home Health Agency name and phone number\_\_\_\_\_

Questions	Yes	No	Comments
<b>1. Medicare-certified?</b>			
<b>2. Medicaid-certified (if you have both Medicare and Medicaid)?</b>			
<b>3. Offers the specific health care services I need (like skilled nursing services or physical therapy)?</b>			
<b>4. Meets my special needs (like language or cultural preferences)?</b>			

<b>5. Offers home health aide services I may need (like help bathing, dressing, and using the bathroom)?</b>			
<b>6. Offers the support services I need, or can help me arrange for additional services, such as Meals on Wheels, that I may need?</b>			
<b>7. Has staff that can provide the type and hours of care my doctor ordered and start when I need them?</b>			
<b>8. Is recommended by my hospital discharge planner, doctor, or social worker?</b>			
<b>9. Has staff available at night and on weekends for emergencies?</b>			
<b>10. Explained what my insurance will cover and what I must pay out-of-pocket?</b>			
<b>11. Does background checks on all staff?</b>			
<b>12. Has letters from satisfied patients, family members, and doctors that testify to the home health agency providing good care?</b>			

