



## 2018 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), best practices implementation and financial performance.

The quality of care, best practices implementation and patient experience domains measure agency performance in each of the publicly available Home Health Compare measures. The quality improvement index is based on changes in the nine outcomes released in July 2017 and July 2018. 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 freestanding agencies from the 2017 CMS Cost Reports (or from 2016, adjusted, when 2017 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 percent of agencies in each region, both facility-based and freestanding, were identified and added to the national list. The top 100 and 500 agencies in the nation were also recognized on overall score.

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

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