

Medicare Ratings and Reports for The Fountains, Rideout Health’s Skilled Nursing Facility

Just as they do for hospitals, the U.S. government’s Center for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) sets standards for and regularly surveys skilled nursing facilities. As with hospitals ratings, the results of these surveys are posted for the public to use when considering their options for short-term and long-term nursing homes in their community. The data collected can be found online at [medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare](https://www.medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare). The site gives comprehensive information about each facility, shows its performance in comparison to national and state averages, and allows the user to compare up to three facilities in one chart.

The Fountains is Rideout Health’s skilled nursing facility, part of Rideout’s senior services campus in Yuba City, which also includes The Courtyard (assisted living apartments) and The Gardens (residential and day care for Alzheimer’s and dementia patients). The Fountains’ long-standing reputation as the best skilled nursing facility in the Yuba-Sutter area is underscored by the official ratings given to it by the experts who survey (inspect) the facility on behalf of Medicare. Here are a few highlights from the current listing for The Fountains on the Medicare.gov website:

Overall Rating	★★★★★ Above Average
Health Inspections	★★★★★ Above Average
Staffing Rating	★★★★★ Above Average
RN Staffing	★★★★☆ Average

The Fountains is rated Above Average in Staffing. Our RN staffing ratio is average in both state and national comparisons and we are above average in the number of LPN/LVN hours per patient. As the Medicare site states, “RNs and Licensed practical and vocational nurses (LPNs/LVNs) work together to plan care, implement care and treatment, and evaluate residents’ outcomes.” Registered Nurses have a minimum of two years of education; LPNs/LVNs generally have one. All are licensed by the state. We believe we have the optimal mix of RNs, LPN/LVNs and CNAs (Certified Nursing Assistants) to provide our short- and long-term patients with the quality care they require and deserve. The nursing staff, along with our therapy and support staff, our medical director, patients’ own physicians, patient families and the patients themselves work as a team to deliver optimum care for each short-stay patient and long-term resident.

The Fountains also performs well when it comes to “deficiencies” found during surveys (inspections); survey findings can relate to a wide range of things in a facility, not just direct patient care. In past 15 months we had only four such findings, which is nearly half the national average and nearly a third the California average. (All four deficiencies, which included a broken fire sprinkler, were remedied immediately.)

Total number of Health Deficiencies found at The Fountains:	4
Average number of Health Deficiencies in California:	10.1
Average number of Health Deficiencies in the United States:	7.5

Rideout Health, of which The Fountains is a part, is a truly *non*-profit organization. While we strive to balance costs with care delivery, we always tip the scales in favor of our patients, and last year delivered nearly \$50 million in unreimbursed medical care to those in our community.