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Agency Launches New Assisted Living Facility Comparison Tool on FloridaHealthFinder.gov

- Allows Floridians to compare quality measures for facilities in their area -

Tallahassee, Fla. – This week, the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) launched a new comparison tool for assisted living facilities (ALFs). This tool, which is the latest addition to a collection of consumer resources hosted at www.FloridaHealthfinder.gov, allows Floridians to compare inspection results, facility complaints, nurse availability, imposed fines, special programs and other service/quality measures for more than 3,000 assisted living facilities around the state.

AHCA Secretary Elizabeth Dudek, said, "When consumers are making health care decisions, they always benefit when they have access to a wealth of data. We continue to support the Governor's promise for Better Health Care for All Floridians, and floridahealthfinder.gov continues to provide top-notch guides, tools and resources that allow consumers and their families to choose the best of the best assisted living facilities."

Senator Eleanor Sobel, the bill sponsor in the Florida Senate, said, "Choosing a health care facility is a decision most people will have to make at some point in their lives. The ALF compare tool will help make that decision a lot easier by allowing consumers to choose quality health care for their loved ones and find the best assisted living options for their needs."

Representative Larry Ahern said, "I am proud of what we were able to accomplish last session when we passed HB1001. A major component of the bill was the comparison tool. This component makes more information accessible to consumers so they can make better decisions about their own or another family member's health care. Another benefit of the tool is that it provides greater accountability in these communities, thus ensuring residents receive the best possible care."

Florida Health Finder has been helping consumers make educated decisions about their health care since 2005. With over 3 million visitors per year, the Florida Health Finder website is widely considered a national leader in the area of consumer education and health care transparency. During the 2015 legislative session, the passage of HB 1001 directed AHCA to expand its selection of consumer resources for assisted living facilities.



In addition to the recently-added ALF comparison tool, Florida Health Finder also offers comparison tools for hospitals, nursing homes, and health plans. These resources are part of a larger initiative to empower consumers to make informed decisions about their health care.

Moving forward, Florida Health Finder will continue to provide Floridians with access to inspection reports, consumer information guides, prescription drug prices, and regulatory information for health care facilities around the state. Consumers can also schedule a free instructional webinar by completing a brief <u>contact form</u>. For more information, please visit <u>www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov</u>.

The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida's Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 45,000 health care facilities and 34 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov. Additional information about Agency initiatives is available via Facebook (AHCAFlorida), Twitter (@AHCA FL) and YouTube (/AHCAFlorida).

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