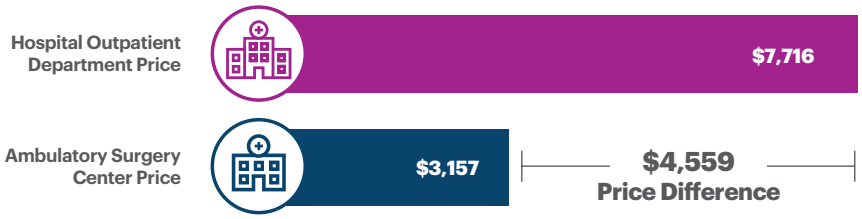
Shifting Common Outpatient Procedures to ASCs Can Save Consumers More than $680 per Procedure

Hospital outpatient departments perform routine procedures and surgeries (referred to hereafter as procedures), such as colonoscopies and cataract removals, for commercially insured individuals at substantially higher prices than Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASCs).[1] **Shifting outpatient procedures for non-complex commercially insured individuals to ASCs would reduce spending by 59 percent and save consumers $684 on average per outpatient procedure.**[2]

The High Price of Common Procedures in Hospital Outpatient Departments

The average price of common procedures performed in a hospital outpatient department in 2019 was $7,716—144 percent more than the average price of the same procedures performed in ASCs.[3,4]



Optimal Use of Lower-Cost Settings for Outpatient Procedures

Of the more than six million routine outpatient procedures performed in hospital outpatient departments, only 10 percent of procedures are for complex patients, such as those with morbid obesity or those suffering from end stage renal disease and 35 percent of procedures are for patients who do not have an ASC near their homes.[5] Fifty-six percent of procedures are for non-complex patients and can be performed at ASCs within a short distance of the patient's home.[a,6]

Shifting common outpatient procedures for non-complex, commercially insured individuals to ASCs would reduce the cost of procedures by an average of 59 percent. With commercially insured individuals responsible for approximately 15 percent of the cost of outpatient procedures, shifting these common procedures to ASCs would save consumers $684 on average per procedure.[7]

Savings from Performing Outpatient Procedures at Lower-Cost Facilities



Shifting procedures from **hospital outpatient departments** to **lower-cost ASCs** would **reduce cost of a procedure by an average of 59% and save consumers $684 per procedure**

a Sum of percentages exceed 100 due to rounding.

Methodology and sources for citations are available at: http://www.uhg.com/outpatient-surgery-site-research.

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