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Prices vary widely across Ohio hospitals for same procedures

CLEVELAND, OH – Prices for the same, common medical procedures vary greatly from hospital to hospital in Ohio, according to [a new report](#) by The Center for Community Solutions.

In the U.S., hospitals receive nearly 1 in 3 dollars spent on health care, and much of that spending is fueled by prices individual hospitals or providers set.

Community Solutions sought out pricing information for Ohio's 206 hospitals, finding that there didn't seem to be any consistent relationship between price and hospital type or business model, and after comparing the prices of six common procedures, we found vast price differences from hospital to hospital. Of the procedures we compared, inpatient bypass surgery had the range in price – with more than \$200,000 between the highest and lowest prices for that procedure.

“We aren't intending to frame hospitals as bad actors,” said Loren Anthes, the William C. and Elizabeth M. Treuhaft Chair in Health Planning and author of the paper. “Rather, we hope to highlight the widespread spending problems in the system overall. We also want point out even when prices for procedures are available there's no way a consumer can really comparison shop because each insurance company negotiates different prices for different procedures.”

The data also shows that for each of the procedures we compared, the average cost in the United States is much higher than the next industrialized nation.

“Prices for common procedures vary greatly and are not readily available or in a plain language format; they should be,” said John Corlett, President and Executive Director of Community Solutions. “This is an area where both state and federal policy action is needed to protect consumers who expect to receive a quality service at a fair price when they need it most.”

[Click here to read the full report](#). If you would like to talk with Anthes please call or text Dani Carlson at 216-282-4583 or email dcarlson@communitysolutions.com.

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