

Compare Hospital Costs User Guide

Things to Know Before You Start

The payments shown on this web site are the average payments to treat patients covered by a health plan. It is just a guide for how much a hospital stay might cost. Keep in mind that the health plan will subtract your co-insurance from the payment before paying the hospital. The hospital will then bill you for the balance of the payment.

The cost of your stay may not be the same as the payments shown on this web site. You should speak with your health plan to find out more about how much you will pay for your hospital stay. The cost of your stay may be different if you are not covered by a health plan. The payments shown on this web site may not include bills from some types of doctors (such as payments to surgeons). These doctors will send their own bills. The payments on this web site here also do not include costs for care after your hospital stay, such as the cost of medicines.

These numbers were sent to OHPR by the nine largest health plans in Oregon. Medicare, Oregon Health Plan (Medicaid), and self-pay patients were not included. If the payment was extremely high or extremely low, that payment was also not included. Hospitals have more patients than are shown here and do more surgeries than are shown here. For example, the report for knee joint replacement surgery has a total of 1022 patients. Oregon hospitals do over 7,000 of these knee joint surgeries each year. Over 2,900 of these knee joint surgeries were paid for by health plans. So the report does not include all surgeries in the Oregon or even all surgeries that were paid for by health plans.

Be sure to speak with your doctor and your health plan to find out more about how much you will pay for your hospital stay. For example, your doctor may tell you that you need to have a routine knee joint replacement surgery. Your doctor will also tell you which hospitals he works with. Many health plans have online calculators to estimate the cost of a condition or procedure. Contact your health plan for information relevant to you and your plan. **You will find the best health care value if you compare both cost and quality.** More information about cost and quality can be found at the following web sites:

[Oregon Hospital Quality Indicators](#)
[Other Hospital Cost and Quality Resources](#)

Purpose of the Reports

The reports on this web site will show the average payments common conditions or procedures. This will allow you to compare costs at different hospitals in Oregon. You should compare both cost and quality at different hospitals in order to find the best health care value.

What You Will See

On this web site you will see reports like the one below for “Normal Newborn”. The next section explains how to read the reports.



Compare Hospital Costs

Project Menu

[Project Home](#)

[Search Home](#)

[Glossary \(pdf\)](#)

[Disclaimer](#)

Results



These data should be interpreted with caution. They represent **average commercial payments** for selected inpatient services based on allowed charges, which were compiled from several Oregon health insurance carriers.

These payments are only a general indicator of what your payment might be for the same procedure or condition. For instance, different payers have different arrangements with each hospital for payment. The average payments shown here do not include professional fees (e.g., physician fees) or other additional post-discharge costs, such as rehabilitation treatment or home health costs. In addition, this report excludes unusually high payments from the calculation of average payments.

You should contact your provider and your insurer to help you determine what your cost for this service might be. Your insurer should also be able to provide an estimate of your expected out-of-pocket expenses for a specific procedure. **Comparing hospital cost and quality data will help you to find the best health care value.** We encourage you to look at quality data along with this payment data when comparing hospitals by going to www.oregon.gov/das/ohpr/hq or looking at any of the online resources listed at www.oregon.gov/das/ohpr/hq/resources.shtml.

Procedure/Condition
Normal newborn
APR-DRG# 640

	Minor/Moderate Severity			Major/Extreme Severity		
	Number of Patients	Average Payment	Median Payment	Number of Patients	Average Payment	Median Payment
SALEM HOSPITAL	424	\$1,392	\$1,092	41	\$5,108	\$3,222
SANTIAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	20	\$900	\$734	N/A	N/A	N/A
SILVERTON HOSPITAL	81	\$1,307	\$921	N/A	N/A	N/A
County	525	\$1,360	\$1,082	42	\$5,031	\$2,942
Statewide	3969	\$1,425	\$1,106	174	\$6,883	\$4,167

"N/A" means that there could be 1 patient or no patients. This is done to protect privacy, so no information is shown.

How to Read the Reports

Procedure/Condition	
1	Normal newborn
2	APR-DRG# 640

		Minor/Moderate Severity			Major/Extreme Severity		
4	5	Number of Patients	Average Payment	6 Median Payment	Number of Patients	Average Payment	Median Payment
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		20	\$900	\$734	7 N/A	N/A	N/A
		81	\$1,307	\$921	N/A	N/A	N/A
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"N/A" means that there could be 1 patient or no patients. This is done to protect privacy, so no information is shown.

- 1 The procedure or condition you chose is listed here. In this table, the condition is cases of normal newborn (babies born in the hospital).
- 2 The clinical grouping is listed next, primarily for the benefit of health care researchers.
- 3 At the top of the next table is the severity category. There are two categories: minor/moderate and major/extreme. People in the minor/moderate category are less sick or less badly injured than people in the major/extreme category.
- 4 The hospitals chosen are listed in the first column. In this example all hospitals in Marion County were chosen. There are three hospitals in Marion County: Salem Hospital, Santiam Memorial Hospital, and Silverton Hospital.
- 5 The number of patients admitted for the procedure or condition selected (normal newborn in this example) are shown for both severity categories. Keep in mind hospitals have more patients than reported here. In this example, there were 424 patients at Salem Hospital in the minor/moderate category and 41 in the major/extreme category.
- 6 The average payment and median payment are shown for both severity categories. The average payment at Santiam Memorial Hospital was \$900 for the minor/moderate category and N/A for the major/extreme category. The median payment was \$734.
- 7 N/A means that there could be 1 patient or no patients. This is done to protect patient privacy. Information is not shown in the major/extreme category for Santiam Memorial Hospital or Silverton Hospital.

- 8 County information is shown in this row. These include all hospitals in the county. In this example, there were 525 patients in Marion County in the minor/moderate category and 42 patients in the moderate/severe category.
- 9 Statewide information is shown in this row. These include all hospitals in Oregon. In this example, there were 3,969 patients in Oregon in the minor/moderate category and 174 patients in the moderate/severe category.