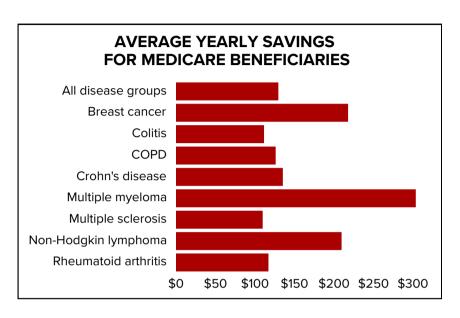
HOW MEDICARE SITE-NEUTRAL PAYMENT REFORMS SAVE PATIENTS MONEY

Should a trip to the doctor's office suddenly cost more just because the office was bought by a hospital? We don't think so. But that's exactly what's happening, even for routine procedures.

Why's that? Medicare pays different rates, depending on where a patient receives care – that's called the "site of service." Those differences add up and mean some patients pay a lot more than others, depending solely on where they're treated. Congress is debating whether to enact a policy called "site neutral" payments. With this reform, Medicare patients would pay the same price for the same service, whether they get their healthcare at a physician's office or a hospital.



The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society hired the actuarial firm Wakely to run the numbers. They focused on routine healthcare services that could be performed safely at any type of medical facility.

Site-neutral payments could save patients a lot – especially those with chronic conditions.

A patient recently diagnosed with the blood cancer multiple myeloma – but ineligible for a stem cell transplant – could save \$1,219 in out-of-pocket savings in one year if site-neutral reforms were enacted in Medicare.

The numbers are clear: Site neutral policies can save Medicare beneficiaries a lot of money. And commerciallyinsured patients could save a lot too.

For example, patients with a blood cancer called multiple myeloma could save, on average, \$303 each year under site-neutral payments. Breast cancer patients could save \$217.

Patients with greater healthcare needs could save even more. Wakely looked in detail at specific treatment regimens for very specific diseases.

MULTIPLE MYELOMA PATIENT EXAMPLE

\$2,082 out-of-pocket costs for treatment at a hospital

\$809

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out-of-pocket costs for treatment at a doctor's office



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