In case you missed it!
United States of Care Polling:
Lawmakers Must Take Action to Address
Inflated Hospital Facility Fees

Recent polling from the United States of Care (USofCare), a nonpartisan organization committed to ensuring that everyone has access to quality, affordable health care, highlights that **health care costs remain a high priority issue for 84% of voters**.

USofCare cited data showing "the greatest share in overall health care spending is attributable to the hospital sector," which is increasingly leveraging so-called "facility fees" for routine outpatient and non-hospital-level care. Here's how it works: a hospital buys a freestanding physician's office, changes the name on the door and converts the practice to a hospital outpatient department, allowing it to tack a hospital facility fee onto the bill. So, when a patient goes to their same doctor in the same location for the same services, the bill now has an additional upcharge. The patient is paying more in cost-sharing but the only change that occurred is that the patient's care was provided in a doctor's office newly acquired by a hospital. When asked, **70% of voters said facility fees are "unfair" charges that add financial stress to people who already are struggling with the rising cost of health care**.

USofCare noted that its "research examined meaningful, straightforward solutions that lawmakers can enact today to address people's desires to maintain high-quality care while not having to worry about the high cost of medical bills." For example, the polling found that **77% of voters across demographics, insurance status, and party affiliation support congressional action to ban "facility fees" for services performed at off-campus clinics and doctor's offices** and **74% of voters want Congress to ban facility fees everywhere for outpatient, same-day services**, regardless of the service or where care is being provided.

Further, **81% of voters support congressional action to increase transparency around facility fees** by requiring providers to disclose such fees upfront before care is provided, as well as congressional action requiring large corporate hospitals to report data on facility fees.

The Alliance supports site-neutral payment reforms and transparency policies that aim to eliminate unjustified payment discrepancies based on the site of care. We will continue to work with Congress to expand site-neutral payments in Medicare and encourage adoption in commercial settings, which could result in nearly $60 billion in savings annually in the commercial market according to research by University of Minnesota economist Steve Parente conducted on behalf of the Alliance.

USofCare Documents & Materials
USofCare Polling Press release
USofCare Research Memo

Additional Site Neutral Payment Reform Materials

- [Alliance to Fight for Health Care: Lowering Costs for Cancer Patients: The Benefits of Site-Neutral Payment Reform](#)
- [Leukemia & Lymphoma Society: What Would Site-Neutral Reform Mean for Cancer Patients?](#)
- [Employee Benefit Research Institute: Location, Location, Location: The Impact of Site of Treatment on Health Care Costs](#)
- [Wakely | Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Study: Site-Neutral Payment Reform has the Potential to Significantly Reduce Out-of-Pocket Patient Spend](#)
- [Wakely | Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Infographic: How Medicare Site-Neutral Payment Reforms Save Patients Money](#)
- [American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network Issue Brief: Examining the Impact of Site Neutral Payment on Costs for Cancer Care](#)

The **Alliance to Fight for Health Care** is a broad-based coalition comprised of businesses, patient advocates, employer organizations, unions, health care companies, consumer groups and other stakeholders that support employer-provided health coverage. Together, we are working to ensure that employer-provided coverage remains an available and affordable option for working Americans and their families.

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