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In case you missed it!

Congress Could Save Hundreds of Dollars for Patients with Cancer

Expanding site-neutral payments would **save patients with Medicare and private insurance hundreds to thousands of dollars** in annual out-of-pocket cost sharing, according to a <u>new study</u> released by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS).

The study, which was conducted by Wakley, estimated the potential savings to Medicare and patients across seven disease groups: breast cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, COPD, multiple sclerosis, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, multiple myeloma, and Crohn's disease. The study found that certain treatment services provided in hospital outpatient departments (HOPDs) were reimbursed at a rate that was 1.5 to four times higher than services provided in a physician office setting.

As a result, the study found a Medicare patient with multiple myeloma could **save an average of \$303.48 in out-of-pocket costs** per year if site-neutral payments were expanded, while a **patient** with multiple myeloma could save **\$665.10 on average**. The study showed the potential savings varied based on patient acuity and geographic location.

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, where research by University of Minnesota economist Steve Parente conducted on behalf of the Alliance estimates could result in nearly \$60 billion in savings annually in the commercial market. As polling conducted by the Alliance has shown, 72% of insured Americans believe the price of health care services should be the same no matter where that service is received.

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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