



What is Healthcare Bluebook?

and Other Frequently Asked Questions

What is Healthcare Bluebook?

Healthcare Bluebook has been selected by your employer as an added healthcare tool to help you shop for care, compare facilities, save money on healthcare services, and earn rewards. Did you know that in-network prices for the same procedure can vary by over 500% depending on the facility you choose? Our web and mobile applications make it easy to save money on hundreds of the most common medical services and procedures by showing you the cost ranges in your area, and providing you with a selection of FAIR PRICE facilities.

We also provide detailed information on the quality of common inpatient procedures (those that require a hospital stay). We enable you to easily identify and select a facility that has a high quality rating.

What is the "FAIR PRICE?"

The FAIR PRICE is the amount you should reasonably expect a service or procedure to cost in your area. Bluebook FAIR PRICES are based on the actual amount paid on the claim, not the billed amount, and reflect the discounts that the health plan has negotiated with the facility.

For services that include more than one provider, separate FAIR PRICE amounts may be shown for facility, physician and anesthesiologist.

How do I find a FAIR PRICE?

Finding a FAIR PRICE provider is easy using Healthcare Bluebook. Type in a search term or use the drop down menus to search for a particular service. Select the service you are looking for from the search results. Review the price range in your area and find the local FAIR PRICE for your service. Scroll down the page and review provider options for the service. Bluebook conveniently color codes all the provider options to make it easy for you to identify those providers with prices at or below the FAIR PRICE.


Don't see a particular provider? You can always call and ask your provider for a price estimate based upon your insurance company rate. Compare the provider's price estimate to the Bluebook FAIR PRICE to determine whether or not the provider's price is in the fair range.


Aren't all hospitals good at all things?


No, very few hospitals are good at all procedures. Some quality metrics use a single overall rating for each hospital. A single rating can mask important differences in the level of quality between clinical areas at the hospital. For example, a hospital can be among the highest performing facilities in the US for heart surgery, yet the same hospital can also be among the poorest performing facilities for joint replacement.


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What do the colors mean next to the healthcare facilities?

 At or Below FAIR PRICE

 Slightly Above FAIR PRICE

 Highest Price

 Highest Quality

 Average Quality

 Lowest Quality

How does Bluebook assign quality ratings?

The Healthcare Bluebook Quality Ratings are designed to help patients understand each hospital's specific level of quality for a particular inpatient clinical area or procedure. The Bluebook Quality Rating is calculated for each clinical area by combining a hospital's performance in several areas: patient complications, patient safety, mortality, and compliance with standards of care. Calculations are based on a statistically significant sample drawn from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) data. Our methodology is validated and published in peer-reviewed medical journals.

Can cheaper mean better Quality? YES!

Providers with lower costs can have higher quality, there is no correlation between high cost and high quality. Healthcare Bluebook provides cost and quality ratings side-by-side for inpatient procedures, which is where quality matters most. Using Bluebook, it is easy to see which facilities offer the highest quality at the lowest costs.

How do I earn Go Green to Get Green Rewards?

You earn rewards simply by visiting a green provider for the procedures Healthcare Bluebook and your employer have determined to be eligible for rewards. Bluebook does all of the processing, there are no prior notifications or forms to submit.

Is my health information kept private?

Healthcare Bluebook does not share information about individual employees or the services received with your employer. All healthcare information is kept confidential.

How will I receive my reward?

Rewards are processed on a monthly basis and will be paid through your normal payroll check. In addition, a letter of explanation will be sent to your address on file with your employer.

Are my family members eligible to receive rewards?

Family members who are participating in the health plan can earn rewards, but rewards are paid to the employee.

Can I earn multiple rewards?

Yes, you may receive multiple rewards for procedures, even those on the same day. For example, if you had cataract surgery on both eyes, you would receive two separate rewards for using a high-value provider.



Healthcare Bluebook™

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