

Price Transparency in Vasectomy

A Quality Improvement Pilot

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Why Price Transparency?

- May **increase patient trust** in the healthcare system
- May reduce financial toxicity by **allowing patients to plan**
- May **nudge patients towards cheaper options**, saving money for patients, health systems, and insurance companies

Why Implement in Vasectomy?

- **Elective**, and widely available
- Contains an element of **choice** (surgicenter vs office)
- Equally acceptable **efficacy** and quality between choices
- **Significant price variation** between choices

Institutional Background

- 53 insurance plans at Penn
- 20/53 did have different co-pays for vasectomy in office vs surgicenter; the **average price difference was \$200**
- In 2023, 154 vasectomies were done in the surgicenter and 1? in the office

The Current Status

Patients choose their vasectomy plan:
surgicenter with or without sedation
vs
office with local anesthesia

The Intervention

All patients presenting for preoperative counseling visit will receive **out-of-pocket price estimates for both scenarios based on their insurance plan**. These will be generated in the EHR and shown to patients prior to booking their vasectomy

The Follow-up

- 1) After visit **surveys** asking if price played a role in vasectomy choice
- 2) Changes in the **distribution** between surgicenter vs office vasectomies