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 13 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