

VHI Publishes 2020 Outpatient Compare Report: Statewide Hospital Median Charges Increase, Ambulatory Surgical Center Median Charges Decrease



Richmond, VA - Virginia Health Information (VHI) has published its 2020 [Outpatient Compare Report](#). The free, online report helps Virginians learn more about commonly performed outpatient procedures, how often they are performed at specific facilities and statewide median charge amount based on 2018 procedures. These average amounts can be a valuable tool for patients who may be uninsured and will need to negotiate the cost of their service with the healthcare facility.

VHI gathers outpatient procedure information from ambulatory surgical centers, physicians' offices and hospital outpatient departments. The guide includes ten commonly performed diagnostic and surgical procedure groups. These procedures were chosen by a taskforce of industry experts based on their actual or perceived risk, frequency, and cost:

- Breast Surgery
- Colonoscopy
- Facial Surgery
- Gall Bladder Removal
- General Laparoscopic Procedures
- Hernia Repair
- Hysterectomy
- Knee Surgery
- Liposuction
- Gynecological Procedures

“Our Guide makes it easy for Virginian’s to learn why a procedure may be necessary, its risks and benefits and tools to find and compare healthcare providers in their community,” notes Michael T. Lundberg, VHI’s Chief Executive Officer.

There were over 264,000 outpatient surgeries performed for these procedures in 2018, less than a one percent decrease from the previous year. Compared to 2017, statewide hospital median charges increased by 7 percent, ambulatory surgical center median charges decreased by 15 percent and physician offices remained the same. Knee surgeries (arthroscopies) decreased by 12 percent from 2017 to 2018 to roughly 14,000 but were still the 2nd most common procedure performed in 2018. Colonoscopies remained the most commonly performed outpatient procedure. Outpatient liposuctions increased by 6 percent from 2017 to 2018, however there was a 35 percent decrease in the procedure at an ambulatory surgical center and a 20 percent increase in physician offices.

Virginia Health Information (VHI) is a nonprofit organization that administers healthcare data across the Commonwealth to businesses, consumers, health insurance companies and other stakeholders. VHI publishes consumer guides and reports on health insurance, hospitals, nursing facilities, physicians and more at www.vhi.org. For updates on healthcare data and statistics, follow and like VHI on Facebook at www.facebook.com/vahealth.