

Lab/Imaging Cost Analysis – Office-based Independent Providers vs. Hospital-based Providers

Platinum Plans 1 & 2 Combined - Based on Jan 1 – April 30, 2020

IMAGING SERVICES	Number of services	Allowed Amount per Service
Office-based imaging	783	\$100.43
Hospital-based Imaging	2,841	\$356.45

Hospital-based imaging services are about **3.5 times the cost** of office-based services on an overall basis. As is true with lab services, there is a different mix of procedures for each setting. Also, for the most part, imaging services performed in Outpatient Hospital facilities are much more costly in this type of setting when compared to an office setting for the same procedure. 5 popular office-based procedures are compared to outpatient settings below:

Health Service Code	Health Service Code Description	Office based Count	Office based: Average of Allowed Amount	Outpatient Hospital-based Count	Outpatient Hospital-based: Average of Allowed Amount
76830	US TRANS-V	63	\$129.90	27	\$283.40
73630	RADEX FOOT COMPLETE MINIMUM 3 VIEWS	56	\$26.52	42	\$196.12
71046	RADIOLOGIC EXAM CHEST 2 VIEWS	34	\$25.04	206	\$90.88
76536	US SOFT TISSUE HEAD & NECK REAL TIME IMGE DOCM	33	\$161.63	29	\$227.11
72100	RADEX SPINE LUMBOSACRAL 2/3 VIEWS	28	\$33.60	25	\$183.82

LAB SERVICES	Number of services	Allowed Amount Per Service
Independent Lab	1,731	\$28.50
Hospital-based Lab	8,930	\$244.68

The average cost per service for Hospital-based labs is more than **8 times the average cost per service** of the Independent labs. While the mix of services differs somewhat for independent labs and hospital-based labs, there are very large cost differences for many procedure codes as seen in the chart of 5 common services below.

Health Service Code	Health Service Code Description	Ind Lab Count of Health Service Code	Ind Lab Average of Allowed Amount	Outpatient Hospital based Lab Count	OP Lab Average of Allowed Amount
36415	COLLECTION VENOUS BLOOD VENIPUNCTURE	148	\$1.22	1447	\$9.31
80050	GENERAL HEALTH PANEL	50	\$18.54	6	\$214.70
80053	COMPREHENSIVE METABOLIC PANEL	78	\$6.47	960	\$121.95
80061	LIPID PANEL	105	\$9.27	517	\$109.07
83036	HEMOGLOBIN GLYCOSYLATED A1C	47	\$5.64	282	\$82.01