Study reveals significant price discrepancies for identical emergency care at different hospitals, with variations of up to 16 times

Description

In recent years, hospitals in the United States have been required by federal law to publicly disclose their prices to allow consumers to make informed decisions about their healthcare costs. However, a recent analysis found that many hospitals have failed to comply adequately with this law. Only 35% of hospitals surveyed were found to be fully compliant with the transparency rule.

A new study published in JAMA Surgery revealed that hospitals charge significantly different prices for trauma care, with some prices being up to 16 times higher than others. This variation in pricing cannot be explained solely by the severity of the trauma. Cash prices for trauma care were often lower than negotiated prices, creating challenges for insured patients who may end up paying more than necessary.

The researchers emphasize the need for intervention to address these pricing discrepancies and lack of transparency in the healthcare system. They highlight the impact of these disparities on uninsured and financially vulnerable patients. Overall, improving transparency and standardizing pricing practices in hospitals is crucial to ensuring fair and affordable healthcare for all.

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Vocabulary List:

1. **Transparency** // (noun): The quality of being open and honest.
2. **Compliant** // (adjective): In accordance with rules or standards.
3. **Disclose** // (verb): To make (information) known.
4. **Discrepancies** // (noun): A lack of compatibility or similarity between two or more facts.
5. **Intervention** // (noun): Action taken to improve a situation.
6. **Severity** // (noun): The fact or condition of being severe.

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. Which term refers to the act of directing attention and energy towards a specific task or goal?

    Option: Network
    Option: Cognitive
    Option: Focus
    Option: Failure

2. What neurodegenerative disease is characterized by memory loss and cognitive decline?

    Option: Severe
    Option: Alzheimer
    Option: Diagnoses
    Option: Crisis

3. Which term describes the act of adhering to rules or guidelines?

    Option: Transparency
    Option: Compliance
    Option: Disclose
    Option: Intervention

4. Which term means to encourage or incite a reaction or response?

    Option: Severity
    Option: Cravings
    Option: Influence
    Option: Stimulates

5. What term describes something that is related to the treatment or healing of a disorder?

Option: Regulating
Option: Therapeutic
Option: Well-being
Option: Failure

6. Which term refers to the mental effort or focus put into a particular task?

Option: Failure
Option: Connection
Option: Cravings
Option: Concentration

7. What term refers to the ability to forecast or foresee future events or outcomes?

Option: Incidence
Option: Prediction
Option: Failure
Option: Severe

8. Which term describes advice or suggestions given to others based on expertise?

Option: Failure
Option: Recommendation
Option: Complications
Option: Influence

9. What term means to examine or analyze systematically or thoroughly?

Option: Alzheimer
Option: Diagnoses
Option: Scan
Option: Renowned

10. Which term describes a system of interconnected people or things?

Option: Compliant
Option: Network
Option: Discrepancies
Option: Intervention

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The patient experienced _____ complications following the surgery.

12. The project was deemed a _____ due to lack of proper planning.

13. The _____ of flu cases has increased significantly this year.

14. The company aims to maintain a high level of _____ in its operations.

15. She is a _____ scientist known for her groundbreaking research.

16. The government is required to _____ information about public spending.

17. Early _____ is crucial in preventing the spread of infectious diseases.

18. She experienced intense food _____ after starting her new diet.

19. Media advertisements can have a significant _____ on consumer behavior.

20. Regular exercise plays a key role in _____ blood sugar levels.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Studying in a quiet environment can enhance your ability to maintain during exams.
22. LinkedIn is a popular platform for professionals to expand their professional .
23. The product launch was a due to the lack of market research.
24. Education plays a crucial role in improving children's abilities.
25. The surgery was successful but post-operative arose.
26. Mindfulness meditation can have a positive impact on your overall .
27. Weather forecasters use various tools to upcoming weather patterns.
28. Music therapy is considered a approach to mental health treatment.
29. Doctors may lifestyle changes to manage certain health conditions.
30. The patient's condition deteriorated and reached a stage.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Focus 2. Alzheimer 3. Compliance 4. Stimulates 5. Therapeutic 6. Concentration
7. Prediction

8. Recommendation 9. Scan 10. Network

Gap-Fill: 11. Severe 12. Failure 13. Incidence 14. Transparency 15. Renowned 16. Disclose 17. Intervention 18. Cravings 19. Influence 20. Regulating

Matching sentence: 1. Concentration 2. Network 3. Failure 4. Cognitive 5. Complications 6. Well-being 7. Predict 8. Therapeutic 9. Recommend 10. Severe

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL2

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