



# Hospital Price Transparency

IHA and Illinois hospitals support increased price transparency for patients. Hospitals are working hard to develop tools so patients get the information they want: **how much they must pay out of pocket for the healthcare services they need.**


Two tools are now available on hospital websites:




## SHOPPABLE SERVICES TOOL




**Who this serves:**  
Patients

 **What this tool does:**


- ▶ Provides an estimate of what a patient's health plan would pay for a service
- ▶ **May** provide an estimate of a patient's out-of-pocket cost if insurance information is available

 **What this tool does NOT do:**


- ▶ Provide patients with their **actual** out-of-pocket cost for individual services rendered
- ▶ May not allow patients to compare prices across providers




## MACHINE-READABLE TOOL



**Who this serves:**  
Researchers and Consumers

 **What this tool does:**

- ▶ Provides a catalogue of all payer-negotiated rates for all active service items (e.g. drugs, supplies, procedures/tests)
- ▶ Builds upon public chargemaster data available through the Affordable Care Act

 **What this tool does NOT do:**

- ▶ Allow for direct comparisons of prices across all payers/plans for services rendered
- ▶ Reflect myriad considerations and differing payment methodologies utilized across payers to determine payment to a provider

**Health plans are the best source of information** on a patient's out-of-pocket financial obligations for healthcare services. If you have trouble paying your bill or are not insured, please contact your hospital's patient financial services department for financial assistance information.



**Illinois leads on providing patients with pricing information.**

**Hospitals are required to provide:**

- ▶ Estimates upon request for any planned service
- ▶ Information on financial assistance available
- ▶ Discounts up to 100% for uninsured patients
- ▶ Payment plans

