

Price Transparency Reference Guide

Topic	Definition
Hospital	All hospitals inclusive of Critical Access Hospitals, Sole Community Hospitals, Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities, and Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities
Chargemaster	List of all individual items and services maintained by a hospital for which the hospital has established a standard charge
Items and services	All items and services, including individual items and services and service packages, that could be provided by a hospital to a patient in connection with an inpatient admission or an outpatient department visit for which the hospital has established a standard charge
Shoppable service	A service that can be scheduled by a health care consumer in advance
Service package	An aggregation of individual items and services into a single service with a single charge
Ancillary service	An item or service a hospital customarily provides as part of or in conjunction with a shoppable primary service
Standard charges	Reflects gross charges, payer-specific negotiated charges, de-identified minimum and maximum negotiated charges, and discounted cash prices
Gross charges	The charge for an individual item or service that is reflected on a hospital's chargemaster, absent any discounts
Payer-specific negotiated charges	The charge that the hospital has negotiated with a third-party payer for an item or service
Discounted cash price	The charge that applies to an individual who pays cash (or cash equivalent) for a hospital item or service
De-identified maximum negotiated charge	The highest charge that a hospital has negotiated with all third-party payers for an item or service
De-identified minimum negotiated charge	The lowest charge that a hospital has negotiated with all third-party payers for an item or service
Third-party payer	An entity that is, by statute, contract, or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a health care item or service
Machine-readable file	Lists gross charges for all items and services the hospital provides, including corresponding third-party payer payment rates; this looks like a very large spreadsheet file with multiple tabs
Shoppable services file	Includes 300 services with corresponding prices, which patients and consumers can use to compare prices among hospitals; 70 services are prescribed by CMS, and the remaining 230 are chosen by the hospital; this file requirement may be satisfied if the hospital uses an internet-based out-of-pocket price estimator