

Is There Hope for Hospital Billing?

Can the Consumer Play a Role in
Creating Affordable Health Care?

Presented by:

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www.BillChek.com



“...When I get an EOB for my 4-year-old’s care, I can’t figure out what happened or what I’m supposed to do. I can’t figure out what care it was related to or who did what.”

- Dr. David Brailer

National Coordinator
Health Information Technology

New York Times, October 13, 2005



Hospitals Resistant to Pricing Logic

- “Hospitals only need to reveal retail pricing”
- No internal logic – they often don’t know how they arrived at the price
- Built in penalties for changing pricing



Actual Hospital Claim

Review & Recommendation

- ICD9 1: **943.49** Deep necrosis of underlying tissues due to burn (deep third degree)
- 2: **948.21** Burn (any degree) involving 20-29 percent of body surface with third
- 3: **728.88** RHABDOMYOLYSIS
- 4: **518.5** Pulmonary insufficiency following trauma and surgery
- 5: **581.9** Nephrotic syndrome with unspecified pathological lesion in kidney



Date of	Fee Service Red	BillChek HRC Allowed	Reason Code Code(s) *	Mod	Description	Units	Billed	Sch Red
	3/24/2005 0.00	ADM 0.00			Initial Admit	1.00	0.00	0.00
	3/24/2005 36,660.00	207 117,000.00	G101		Icu/burn Care	39.00	153,660.00	0.00
	3/24/2005 23,760.00	207 49,500.00	G101		Icu/burn Care	33.00	73,260.00	0.00
	3/24/2005 3,630.00	207 9,350.00	G101		Icu/burn Care	11.00	12,980.00	0.00
	3/24/2005 1,440.00	207 3,000.00	G101		Icu/burn Care	2.00	4,440.00	0.00
	3/24/2005 990.00	207 2,550.00	G101		Icu/burn Care	3.00	3,540.00	0.00
	3/24/2005 153,990.17	250 38,514.38	G101		Pharmacy	1.00	192,504.55	0.00
	3/24/2005 0.00	255 977.98	244.59	G101	Drugs/incident Rad		1.00	1,222.57
	3/24/2005 36,595.85	258 12,221.44	G101		Iv Solutions	1.00	48,817.29	0.00
	3/24/2005 26,615.16	259 6,656.69	G101		Drgs/other	1.00	33,271.85	0.00
	3/24/2005 0.00	270 93,036.84	67,412.17	G101	Med-sur Supplies		1.00	160,449.01
	3/24/2005 5,969.15	272 4,325.08	G101		Sterile Supply	1.00	10,294.23	0.00
	3/24/2005 649.23	274 216.81	G101		Prosth/orth Dev	1.00	866.04	0.00
	3/24/2005 98,156.10	301 21,498.03	G101		Lab/chemistry	1.00	119,654.13	0.00
	3/24/2005 0.00	302 14,779.09	3,236.89	G101	Lab/immunology		1.00	18,015.98
	3/24/2005 22,242.61	305 4,871.54	G101		Lab/hematology	1.00	27,114.15	0.00
	3/24/2005 4,472.49	306 979.55	G101		Lab/bact-micro	1.00	5,452.04	0.00

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- **Total Charges: \$1,190,425.74**
 - **BillChek Reductions: \$779,136.20**
 - **Recommended Allowance: \$411,289.54**
 - **Savings: 65%**

Market Barriers to a 21st Century Health System

- **Powerful Hospital and Provider Groups**
 - No open competition
 - Inconsistent pricing
 - Inflexible collection practices / no negotiation
 - Unwillingness to freely release cost or quality information
- **Consumers Do Not Have a Voice**
 - No market leverage for individuals
 - Uncertainty in navigating confusing health care system



Information Barriers to a 21st Century Health System

- No cost transparency
 - Consumers are not aware of how much health care costs – *until they have to pay for it*
- Limited information and access to reliable provider quality of care data
- Little or no incentive for provider to adopt electronic medical record system



Supports and empowers consumers with information



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80%
of medical bills contain errors
Are you paying too much?



You wouldn't think about paying your credit card bill without reviewing your statement...so why pay a complex medical bill without a clear understanding of the charges?

Insurance companies and other businesses have been using BillChek medical bill review since 1996 to save millions of dollars on medical bills. Now you can access BillChek for your own covered or non-covered medical bills.

BillChek can help with your medical bills

Those paying out-of-pocket are often those paying the highest medical cost for medical services. BillChek medical bill review identifies medical billing errors and calculates what providers routinely get paid for the same services in your area. You may find they've charged you too much!

BillChek is a natural complement to your high deductible health plan (HDHP), health savings account (HSA) or other flexible spending plan. BillChek helps you get the most value from your health care dollars. Keep more money in your health care accounts and protect yourself from prematurely reaching your health care coverage limits.

GET IT FREE FOR A LIMITED TIME

During the initial launch of this website, BillChek is offering free medical bill reviews! [View a sample medical bill review.](#)

Get Started Today!

HOW DOES IT WORK?

BillChek uses industry accepted medical bill review standards to identify medical billing errors and potential medical overcharges on your medical bills. Within one business day, you will be emailed a detailed review of your medical bill and the steps you can take to set up a fair and reasonable payment with your medical provider.

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Resources to assist in negotiating or paying bills



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Medical Resources

[General Health Care Information](#)

Collection of consumer-oriented sites offering medical information, healthcare information, medication guides, health assessment tools, wellness tips, and more.

[Health Insurance Information](#)

Resources offering health insurance information, tools, and other insurance related information.

[Medical Provider Information](#)

A listing of resources to find healthcare providers in your local area, as well as sites offering reviews of doctors and healthcare officials.

[Medical Debt Help](#)

Resources intended for help paying medical bills and offering hospital debt help. Sites listed in this category offer credit counseling information and ways to manage your medical debt.



Cost information broken down line-by-line

Sample Medical Review

Procedure Codes/Modifiers	Billed Amount	Comments*	Over-Billing	Fair Rate
450 - Emergency Room	\$250.00	1	\$0.00	\$250.00
320, 73610 - Radiological exam	\$121.00	2	\$77.32	\$43.68
E0110 - Crutches	\$71.00	3	\$71.00	\$0.00
A4460 - Elastic Bandage	\$12.00	3	\$12.00	\$0.00

Comments

1. This charge is fair and reasonable for your geographic area.
2. This procedure should have been billed as a "technical" component only. It was billed at a "global" rate, which would only be appropriate if performed at a free-standing radiology practice.
3. The charge for this service should have been included as part of the emergency room visit.

Clear explanations for each adjustment



Summary

Transparency can be achieved

Consumers can play a key role in
reducing health care costs

Hospitals must reveal pricing logic

