

Anthem Care Comparison Q&A

What is Anthem Care Comparison?

An innovative comparison tool that discloses real price ranges for common services at specified area facilities. Quality information is also included so you can compare expertise and experience. It is an early step toward health care transparency.

Who is this tool for?

This is a pioneer program open to any Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield member though data is not yet available for all areas.

How can it help me make health decisions?

Different facilities can charge different prices for the same service. This is a big deal if you share care costs. A clear understanding of price and performance can help you make informed decisions.

What if I have a traditional plan?

You may not realize that your out-of-pocket costs can still vary if you share a set percentage of the payment. Check your plan to see what your coinsurance levels are.

How can I use this information?

Price is the first piece to figuring your actual out-of-pocket expenses for a procedure or visit. Apply your plan's copay and coinsurance to get a final estimate of your actual cost.

Is this meant to replace my doctor's recommendations?

Not at all. Treatment decisions are based on many factors. Use this cost and quality information when talking to your doctor about which facility is best for you.

Which services are included?

We've selected the most common elective, non-emergency procedures, at local facilities.

What about quality comparisons?

Anthem Care Comparison lists how often each facility performs each procedure along with procedure and quality comparisons that gauge facility performance and safety.

What quality criteria can I use?

You can compare facilities based on the number of patients treated, complication rates, average length of stay and mortality rates. Whatever is most important to you.

Where does the information come from?

Price information is based on agreements between Anthem and each network facility along with average professional fees. Frequency data is supplied by the individual facilities.

Is there an offline alternative?

If you don't have access to the Internet, you can call your local Anthem customer service rep and we can look up the information for you.

Where can I find Anthem Care Comparison?

Go to anthem.com and log in using your username and password (or Register).

Who can I call for help?

Anthem customer service is happy to help. You can find the phone number on your ID card.

