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VHI publishes latest health-care costs

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Virginia Health Information has released its annual report on cost comparisons for health-care services.

The Health Care Pricing Report shows the average amounts paid by insurance carriers for medical procedures such as doctor visits, baby deliveries, mammograms and CT scans. Users of the system can compare costs for procedures at various hospital and doctor's facilities.

"What's unique this year is that with the help of health insurance companies, consumers can see more detailed pricing information about specific health care procedures," said Michael Lundberg, executive director of VHI. "The new information includes variations in price by where the procedure takes place and a breakdown of possible charges for facility, surgeon, anesthesiologist, radiologist, physician and other charges. This information can help consumers better understand what they may pay and to negotiate lower prices for care."

The report can be found at http://www.vhi.org/healthcareprices

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