

Thank you. I applaud your effort to end surprise balance billing.

I would like you to expand the effort to end another type of surprise billing - that where it's impossible to determine the price in advance of a purchase - even within network.

There have been many instances where I've tried to shop for the lowest cost provider of a treatment, service, or prescription drug and I am routinely told I won't be told the price until after the claim is processed or the purchase is rung up at the register. Invariably the providers say I should contact the insurance company (Highmark in my case) because their fees are determined by contract and then the insurance company tells me they have no access to the price - only the provider does.

Obviously the computer knows the price after the fact. Why can't I be told before hand? It's the only way I can intelligently spend my deductible money and use market forces to help keep prices reasonable.

I think there should be legislation or regulation requiring any health care provider to post the final price to any patient before the procedure is agreed to.

Regards, JOHN

John Seiffer - [REDACTED]
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