

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Doctor's Office Care at Hospital Prices](#)

Article Link: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/doctors-office-care-at-hospital-prices-dishonest-billing-identifier-number-out-patient-fe670b3e>

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Summary: Currently, Medicare pays hospital-owned facilities two to three times as much as independent physician offices for the same service, according to the Alliance for Site Neutral Payment Reform. This creates an enormous incentive for large hospital chains to acquire outpatient practices. A report by the Physician Advocacy Institute found that the share of hospital-owned physician practices more than doubled, from 14% to 31%, between 2012 and 2018. By 2020 more than half of physicians worked directly for a hospital or at a physician practice owned by a hospital, according to the American Medical Association. Removing these perverse incentives could save patients and taxpayers between \$346 billion and \$672 billion over the next decade.

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