

Agenda: Commercial Healthcare Prices Working Group Meeting

Date: September 11, 2026

Location: Wilder Foundation – 451 Lexington Pkwy N, St. Paul, MN 55104
Amherst H. Wilder Auditorium (Auditorium A)

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<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/284565864583181?p=fp0AfpYXbRTYNOI7lh>

Meeting Objectives

- Present the updated scope of work for the commercial healthcare prices working group
- Review available evidence on hospital price variation, levels, and growth as reflected in work by the Health Economics Program (HEP) and other public sources
- Discuss the factors that drive price variation, high prices, and price growth
- Highlight state policies aimed at addressing price variation, high prices, and price growth

Pre-reads

- Congressional Budget Office, “[The Prices That Commercial Health Insurers and Medicare Pay for Hospitals’ and Physicians’ Services](https://www.cbo.gov/publication/57422) (<https://www.cbo.gov/publication/57422>)”
- KFF, “[Hospital Prices Have Risen Much Faster for Private Insurance Than Medicare Since 2019](https://www.kff.org/health-costs/hospital-prices-have-risen-much-faster-for-private-insurance-than-medicare-since-2019/) (<https://www.kff.org/health-costs/hospital-prices-have-risen-much-faster-for-private-insurance-than-medicare-since-2019/>)”
- RAND, “[Prices Paid to Hospitals by Private Health Plans](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RRA1144-2-v2.html) (https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RRA1144-2-v2.html)”

Agenda

9:00 – 9:10	Welcome and overview of agenda
9:10 – 9:20	Working group objectives and roadmap
9:20 – 9:30	Working group member introductions
9:30 – 9:45	Healthcare spending in Minnesota
9:45 – 10:10	Narrowing the scope: hospital prices
10:10 – 10:50	Hospital prices: what we already know
10:50 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 11:15	What drives high and variable commercial hospital prices
11:15 – 11:55	State policies on commercial hospital prices
11:55 – 12:00	Closing and next steps

ABOUT THE CENTER FOR HEALTH CARE AFFORDABILITY

The Minnesota Center for Health Care Affordability at the Minnesota Department of Health is committed to making health care more affordable for all Minnesotans.

The Center identifies cost drivers, provides transparent research, and advances solutions that stabilize health care spending so that Minnesotans can afford the high-quality care they need.

Minnesota Department of Health | Center for Health Care Affordability
651-201-5000 | health.affordability@state.mn.us
www.health.state.mn.us/data/affordability/index.html

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