Awareness of Surgical Implant Costs Among Podiatrists
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BACKGROUND

- The U.S. spends more on healthcare than any other industrialized nation.1
- About 2.5x the average of other nations
- Over $150 billion is spent annually on medical devices, with orthopedic and cardiac procedures accounting for the majority of expenditures.1
- Orthopedic implant costs are expected to increase approx. 9.8% annually.1
- In the fields of urology and ENT, self rated costs do not correlate with cost accuracy.2,4
- In orthopedics, there is a mean of 6.9% estimation error (range 28-289%).6
- There is no published podiatric literature discussing awareness of implant costs

LIMITATIONS

- Including participants in administrative positions and those participating in procedures if selected with ASC or hospital
- Inability to independently evaluate estimates due to cost variability, multiple manufacturers, regional differences and contract pricing

CONCLUSIONS

- High surgical implant costs unawareness exists among podiatrists in the US; however, this is comparable with other fields in medicine. Within this study, the mean unawareness for four common surgical procedures was 76.70%.
- Minimal differences exist between awareness and awareness, except for those with 0-4 years of experience where the unawareness was higher.
- Our data supports the need for stricter protocols for delivering implant cost to providers

REFERENCES