Cost and Reimbursement for Three Fibroid Treatments: Hysterectomy, Myomectomy, and Uterine Fibroid Embolization

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Objective: The objective of this study was to compare costs and reimbursements for three different treatments for uterine fibroids.

Methods: Costs and reimbursements were collected and analyzed from the hospital decision support database from 540 women who underwent hysterectomy (n = 299), myomectomy (n = 105) or uterine fibroid embolization (UFE) (n = 136) for uterine fibroids during 2000-2.

Results: The total hospital cost for UFE was \$2707, which was significantly less than hysterectomy (\$5707) or myomectomy (\$5676) (P < 0.05). The hospital net income (hospital net reimbursement - total hospital cost) for UFE was \$57, which was significantly greater than hysterectomy (-\$572) or myomectomy (-\$715) (P < 0.05). The professional reimbursement fees for UFE, hysterectomy, and myomectomy were \$1306, \$979, and \$1078, respectively.

Conclusion: UFE has lower costs and greater hospital net income than hysterectomy or myomectomy for treating uterine fibroids. UFE may be more financially advantageous than hysterectomy or myomectomy for the insurer, hospital, and health care system.