

# Outsourced ERs: The Facts Behind Envision Healthcare

Envision Healthcare is the largest ER physician staffing firm in the country and its outrageous billing practices are increasing costs for hospitals and consumers.

That is why UnitedHealthcare has taken the step of negotiating a **new contract** with Envision to protect consumers from **excessively high costs** and ensure patients do not have to worry about **surprise medical bills**.

## Significantly higher rates for the same services



When reported as a percentage of what Medicare pays:

AVG. PAID TO IN-NETWORK ER PHYSICIANS<sup>1</sup> **297%**

AVG. CHARGES OF OUT-OF-NETWORK ER PHYSICIANS<sup>1</sup> **798%**

AVG. CHARGES FOR ENVISION'S ER PHYSICIANS<sup>3</sup> **975%**

Envision Healthcare charges on average 975% of what Medicare pays for the same services, driving up costs for both hospitals and consumers.

Hospitals are working hard to lower costs and create a better patient experience, but outsourced ER companies are setting their efforts backward.



“ [A Hospital] in California said patients started complaining about bills they received after EmCare took over the emergency room in 2015. ”

— NYT, 7/24/17

**1 in 5**



ER patients are treated by out-of-network physicians at in-network facilities.<sup>1</sup>

**3X**

higher rates

for the same services



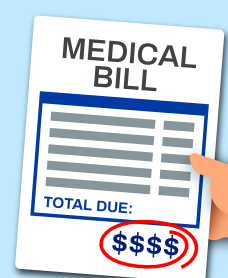
At a UnitedHealthcare contracted hospital in the Southwest that managed its own ER, its physicians used to charge a patient with bronchitis **\$265**.

When Envision took over the ER, a patient with bronchitis was suddenly charged **\$683**, nearly tripling the rates for the same services — that's 1,101% more than what Medicare pays.

Surprise out-of-network care causes troubling bills:

**1 in 3**

Nearly 1 in 3 adults having trouble paying medical bills say the problem stemmed from surprise out-of-network care, according to a 2016 report on surprise medical bills.<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nber.org/papers/w23623>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.brookings.edu/research/solving-surprise-medical-bills/>

<sup>3</sup> based on UnitedHealthcare data