

Cost Savings for Chiropractic Patients

1. Study

- *Cost of Care for Common Back Pain Conditions Initiated With Chiropractic Doctor vs Medical Doctor/Doctor of Osteopathy*
- BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee claims database

Key findings

- 40% lower health-care costs when patients with low-back pain first saw a chiropractor instead of an MD/DO.
- Study analyzed ~85,000 insured members over two years.

Access summary

- <https://www.renzechiro.com/blue-cross-blue-shield-study-shows-chiropractic-care-saves-40-percent-on-healthcare-costs/>

Citation

Lilledahl RL, Finch MD, Axene DV, Goertz CM. *Journal of Manipulative and Physiological Therapeutics*. 2010.

2. Study

- *The Association Between Use of Chiropractic Care and Costs of Care Among Older Medicare Patients With Chronic Low Back Pain and Multiple Comorbidities*
- Published in the *Journal of Manipulative and Physiological Therapeutics*

Key findings

- Patients receiving chiropractic manipulative treatment alone had the lowest total Medicare costs and lower cost per episode compared with medical care alone.

Access summaries

- PubMed abstract:
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26907615/>
- Full-text PMC article:
<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4834378/>

Citation

Weeks WB, Leininger B, Whedon JM, et al. *J Manipulative Physiol Ther*. 2016.

3. Study

- *Utilization, Costs, and Effects of Chiropractic Care on Medicare Program Costs*
- Muse & Associates for the **American Chiropractic Association (2001)**

Key finding

- Medicare beneficiaries using chiropractic care averaged **\$4,426 in annual Medicare costs vs \$8,103** for non-chiropractic patients — about **45–50% lower expenditures**.

Access the summary

- https://chiro.org/Cost_Effectiveness/Effects_of_Chiropractic_Care_on_Medicare.shtml

Citation

Muse & Associates. *Utilization, Costs, and Effects of Chiropractic Care on Medicare Program Costs*. Washington DC: American Chiropractic Association, 2001.