Lehigh County

Common Outpatient Procedures for Lehigh County Residents in FY 2013

Lehigh County

1 in 7. In FY 2013, 1 in 7 Lehigh County residents (48,405) underwent an outpatient procedure in a Pennsylvania (PA) facility. Some of these residents had multiple outpatient procedure visits, for a total of 78,333 visits.

1.9 million. Statewide, 1.9 million PA residents had an outpatient procedure in a PA facility and about 27% of these had several outpatient procedure visits, for a total of 2.9 million visits in FY 2013.



3.1 million. Overall, PHC4 collected 3.1 million outpatient procedure records (for PA and non-PA residents) from 174 hospital-based outpatient departments and 275 freestanding ambulatory surgery centers in FY 2013.

Outpatient Procedure Records by Setting

Freestanding Ambulatory 30.1%
Hospital-Based Outpatient 69.9%

This report focuses on 10 outpatient procedures commonly performed in PA, with specific data shown for Lehigh Co.

	Total for	% Freestanding	% Hospital	Procedure Rate per 10,000 Residents	
Common Outpatient Procedures	County Residents	Ambulatory Center	Outpatient Department	County Rate	State Rate
Colonoscopy with/without Biopsy	10,743	64.1%	35.9%	302.4	325.4
Incision and Drainage of Ear Drum	446	40.8%	59.2%	12.6	17.4
Release of Carpal Tunnel and Other Nerves in Arms/Legs	886	55.2%	44.8%	24.9	28.2
Removal of Breast Tumor or Partial Mastectomy	444	3.4%	96.6%	12.5	14.2
Removal of Bunion and Repair of Toe Deformity	518	5.4%	94.6%	14.6	12.1
Removal of Cataract and Insertion of Lens	4,483	88.1%	11.9%	126.2	146.2
Removal of Gallbladder and/or Gallstones	516	4.5%	95.5%	14.5	19.8
Removal of Tonsils and Adenoids	462	35.7%	64.3%	13.0	19.1
Repair of Hernia in Groin	666	36.6%	63.4%	18.7	18.2
Repair of Torn Knee Cartilage	1,074	36.0%	64.0%	30.2	30.1

Notes: These procedures were defined using the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's Clinical Classifications Software. Outpatient procedures that were incorporated into inpatient records (e.g., outpatient diagnostic services for patients admitted to the hospital within 3 days of their outpatient visit) were not included here.

PHC4's outpatient procedure data, available through its special request program, is an important resource for health care facilities and providers, insurers, researchers, and consultants in studying issues such as access to care, cost and reimbursements, community need, and strategic planning.

Where did Lehigh County residents have these outpatient procedures?

(Top 3 facilities by number of procedures)

	Top 3 Facilities	Number (%)		Top 3 Facilities	Number (%)
Colonoscopy with/ without Biopsy	College Heights Endoscopy	3,145 (29.3%)	Removal of Cataract	Valley Eye SC	2,264 (50.5%)
	Lehigh Valley	1,879 (17.5%)	and Insertion of Lens	SC of Allentown	679 (15.1%)
	Eastern PA Endoscopy	1,671 (15.6%)		Fairgrounds SC	626 (14.0%)
• Incision and Drainage of Ear Drum	SC of Allentown	137 (30.7%)	Removal of	Lehigh Valley	239 (46.3%)
	St Luke's/Bethlehem	115 (25.8%)	Gallbladder and/or	St Luke's/Bethlehem	109 (21.1%)
	Lehigh Valley	78 (17.5%)	Gallstones	Lehigh Valley/Muhlenberg	59 (11.4%)
• Release of Carpal Tunnel and Other Nerves in Arms/Legs	SC of Allentown	392 (44.2%)	 Removal of Tonsils 	St Luke's/Bethlehem	135 (29.2%)
	St Luke's/Bethlehem	103 (11.6%)	and Adenoids	SC of Allentown	124 (26.8%)
	Fairgrounds SC	84 (9.5%)		Lehigh Valley	62 (13.4%)
Removal of Breast Tumor or Partial Mastectomy	Lehigh Valley/Muhlenberg	125 (28.2%)	 Repair of Hernia in 	Fairgrounds SC	236 (35.4%)
	Lehigh Valley	108 (24.3%)	Groin	Lehigh Valley	165 (24.8%)
	St Luke's/Bethlehem	71 (16.0%)		St Luke's/Bethlehem	111 (16.7%)
Removal of Bunion and Repair of Toe Deformity	St Luke's/Bethlehem	139 (26.8%)	 Repair of Torn Knee 	SC of Allentown	217 (20.2%)
	Lehigh Valley	101 (19.5%)	Cartilage	Lehigh Valley	172 (16.0%)
	Surg Spec/Coordinated	99 (19.1%)		Fairgrounds SC	153 (14.2%)

NR = Not reported due to volume limitations

NA = Not applicable

SC = Surgical/surgery center

When ties occur, facilities are listed alphabetically.

Common outpatient procedures by payer breakdown

	Medicare	Medicaid	Commercial	Other*
Colonoscopy with/without Biopsy	34.3%	3.4%	57.9%	4.4%
Incision and Drainage of Ear Drum	7.0%	26.7%	63.9%	2.5%
Release of Carpal Tunnel and Other Nerves in Arms/Legs	33.2%	4.9%	59.4%	2.6%
Removal of Breast Tumor or Partial Mastectomy	36.7%	8.3%	52.3%	2.7%
Removal of Bunion and Repair of Toe Deformity	26.1%	6.4%	67.0%	0.6%
Removal of Cataract and Insertion of Lens	71.1%	3.4%	21.3%	4.1%
Removal of Gallbladder and/or Gallstones	21.3%	16.3%	59.3%	3.1%
Removal of Tonsils and Adenoids	0.6%	28.4%	68.8%	2.2%
Repair of Hernia in Groin	26.7%	7.7%	62.6%	3.0%
Repair of Torn Knee Cartilage	15.8%	4.1%	77.9%	2.1%

Want to know what
Medicare pays health
care facilities in PA for
common outpatient
services such as cataract
surgery, MRIs or biopsies?
Then visit PHC4's website
at www.phc4.org and
click on the interactive
database of Medicare
Payment Information
for Common Outpatient
Services.

About PHC4

Created by the PA General Assembly in 1986, the PA Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) is an independent state agency that collects, analyzes and reports information used to improve the quality and restrain the cost of health care in the state. Each year, more than 840,000 reports are downloaded from the PHC4 website and nearly 100 organizations and individuals access and use PHC4 data through special requests. PHC4 is governed by a 25-member board of directors, representing business, labor, consumers, health care providers, insurers and state government.

^{*} Includes other government, self-pay and unknown payer.