

Pancreaticoduodenectomy costs high at safety-net hospitals

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(HealthDay)—Pancreaticoduodenectomy (PD) is associated with high

costs at safety-net hospitals, according to a study published online July 27 in *JAMA Surgery*.

Derek E. Go, from the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine, and colleagues modeled different techniques for reducing the cost of complex [surgery](#) performed at safety-net hospitals carrying out PD. Data were included for 15,090 [patients](#) who underwent PD during the five years of the study.

The researchers found that among safety-net hospitals, 28.0, 63.0, and 9.0 percent of patients were treated at low-burden hospitals (LBHs), medium-burden hospitals (MBHs), and high-burden hospitals (HBHs), respectively. Higher rates of complications or comorbidities were seen at HBHs, and they had more patients with increased illness severity. Perioperative mortality was 3.7 percent at HBHs, compared with 1.6 and 1.7 percent at LBHs and MBHs, respectively (P

"Redirecting patients away from safety-net hospitals for complex surgery may represent the best option for reducing [costs](#)," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract](#)

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