

Small extra cost for water immersion during labor

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(HealthDay)—Water immersion during labor and birth is associated with

an average extra cost of \$221.12 (2014 Canadian dollars) for each laboring woman, according to a study published online Sept. 4 in the *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice*.

Thomas G. Poder, Ph.D., from UETMIS and CIUSSS de l'Estrie-CHUS in Sherbrooke, Canada, simulated the additional cost of water [immersion](#) for hospitals. Data were obtained from systematic reviews already published. Microsimulations of representative laboring women were used in a decision tree. Sensitivity analyses relating to analgesic use and duration of labor was performed.

The researcher found that for each laboring woman, microsimulations indicated an extra cost of \$166.41 to \$274.76 (2014 Canadian dollars) depending on the scenario considered. The average additional cost was \$221.12.

"While [water immersion](#) allows better clinical outcomes, implementation and other costs are higher than the savings generated, which leads to a small extra cost to allow women to potentially have more relaxation and less pain," Poder writes.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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