



# Policy Impact Time: Surprise Billing

Through sophisticated analysis, the Schaeffer Center created an evidence-based playbook to help federal and state policymakers tackle surprise balance billing.

2009  
2010  
2011  
2012  
2013  
2014  
2015  
2016  
2017  
2018  
2019  
2020  
2021

2016

## Solving Surprise Medical Bills

- Paul Ginsburg, Loren Adler and colleagues authored an extensive report that summarized data, identified policy solutions, and called on federal and state policymakers to enact protections.
- Public conference: **Protecting Patients from Surprise Medical Bills**
- Fortune op-ed outlines solutions
- Policy briefing cohosted with AEI

2017

## Experts inform policymakers, media

- Health Affairs Blog post outlines why federal action is needed
- Policy briefing with congressional staff
- Blog post summarizes three federal actions that would address the issue

2018

- Health Affairs Blog post analyzing newly proposed federal legislation
- Policy briefing with Health and Human Services
- Health Affairs Blog post analyzing binding arbitration as an approach to solve surprise billing
- Policy briefing with the Senate Finance Committee
- Policy briefing with the Senate HELP Committee
- Policy briefing with various state lawmakers

2019

- State Approaches to Mitigating Surprise Out-of-Network Billing: In a widely cited white paper, Loren Adler, Matthew Fiedler and colleagues explained the link between provider charges and surprise medical bills and why out-of-network billing is lucrative for certain providers.
- Public conference: **Emerging Policy Solutions to Surprise Medical Bills**
- New England Journal of Medicine Perspective on reducing unfair out-of-network billing
- Health Affairs blog on how federal policy could build on prior approaches
- Blog post on the legal merits of federal action
- Nine Policy briefings on surprise billing for Congressional staff
- Blog post on the relationship between network adequacy and surprise billing
- Policy briefing with the House Education & Labor HELP Subcommittee
- Blog post on New York's experience with solving surprise billing
- Blog post on network matching as a potential solution
- Policy briefing with the House Ways & Means Committee
- Blog post analyzing provider charges relative to Medicare rates
- Policy briefing to various state lawmakers to provide technical assistance
- Blog post analyzing the effects of California's 2017 surprise billing law
- Health Affairs Blog post analyzing a Senate committee proposal
- Health Affairs Blog post analyzing a House committee proposal
- Blog post analyzing the relationship between network adequacy and surprise billing

2020

- Health Affairs paper on surprise out-of-network bills from ambulatory surgery centers
- Millbank Quarterly paper on the prevalence and magnitude of out-of-network air ambulance bills
- American Journal of Managed Care paper on how surprise billing, and policies to address the issue, can affect health insurance premiums
- Blog post analyzing the link between high air ambulance charges and private equity

## December 2020: No Surprises Act signed into law

2021

- Health Affairs paper showing arbitration decisions in New Jersey surprise billing cases result in large payouts
- Blog post summarizing the No Surprises Act
- Blog post providing recommendations for implementing the No Surprises Act
- Health Affairs Blog post showing why arbitration guidelines may not work for air ambulances
- Health Affairs paper showing emergency physicians recover a higher share of charges from out-of-network care compared to in-network care

Future

## On the Horizon: The Future of Surprise Medical Bill Protections

Schaeffer Center experts will continue to analyze the implementation of the No Surprises Act and act as a resource to state and federal policymakers.

Policymakers and the media, among others, will continue to look to the Schaeffer Center for evidence-based analysis of these complex issues and what the changes will mean for patients and the broader healthcare system.

- White paper
- Event
- Policy briefing
- Blog post
- Journal article