

<b>Appendix. Characteristics of Patients Included in the Cost Analysis</b>									
	<b>Microdiscectomy (1-Level)</b>			<b>Laminectomy (1- to 2- Level)</b>			<b>Laminectomy with Fusion (1-Level)</b>		
	<b>TH (n=44)</b>	<b>CH (n=162)</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>TH (n=29)</b>	<b>CH (n=85)</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>TH (n=42)</b>	<b>CH (n=154)</b>	<b>P</b>
Age, mean ± SD	39.5±12.3	50.8±14.8	<0.001*	54.3±12.6	63.1±13.1	0.002*	59.3±10.3	61.2±12.4	0.38
Male, n (%)	26 (59)	84 (52)	0.50	13 (45)	43 (51)	0.67	18 (43)	63 (41)	0.86
Race, n (%)									
Caucasian	33 (75)	148 (91)	0.007*	15 (52)	78 (92)	<0.001*	25 (59.5)	132 (86)	<0.001*
Other	11 (25)	14 (9)		14 (48)	7 (8)		17 (40.5)	22 (14)	
Comorbidities, n (%)									
Heart	1 (2.5)	6 (3.5)	NS	2 (7)	12 (14)	0.51	8 (19)	16 (10.5)	0.18
Renal	0 (0)	5 (3)	0.59	1 (3.5)	9 (10.5)	0.45	0 (0)	14 (9)	0.043*
Pulmonary	1 (2.5)	29 (18)	0.007*	5 (17)	15 (17.5)	NS	12 (28.5)	29 (19)	0.20
Diabetes	2 (4.5)	15 (9)	0.54	5 (17)	29 (34)	0.10	7 (17)	34 (22)	0.53
Hypertension	5 (11.5)	66 (41)	<0.001*	12 (41.5)	56 (66)	0.028*	25 (59.5)	96 (62)	0.86
Obesity	5 (11.5)	22 (13.5)	0.81	6 (21)	29 (34)	0.24	9 (21.5)	54 (35)	0.14
Smoker	0 (0)	41 (25)	<0.001*	1 (3.5)	12 (14)	0.18	7 (17)	25 (16)	NS
Insurance, n (%)									
Private	31 (70.5)	93 (57.5)	0.14	12 (41)	33 (39)	0.23	18 (43)	78 (51)	0.081
Medicare/Medicaid	13 (29.5)	60 (37)		17 (59)	44 (52)		24 (57)	65 (42)	
Workers Comp.	0 (0)	9 (5.5)		0 (0)	8 (9)		0 (0)	11 (7)	
Specialty, n (%)									
Orthopaedic	38 (86.5)	43 (26.5)	<0.001*	20 (69)	43 (51)	0.13	35 (83)	69 (45)	<0.001*
Neurosurgery	6 (13.5)	119 (73.5)		9 (31)	42 (49)		7 (17)	85 (55)	
Interbody fusion, n (%)	—	—	—	—	—	—	9 (21)	118 (77)	<0.001*
PPC, n (%)	0 (0)	0 (0)	NS	0 (0)	0 (0)	NS	0 (0)	3 (1.9)	NS
Readmissions, n (%)	0 (0)	2 (1.2)	NS	1 (3.4)	1 (1.2)	0.45	2 (4.8)	5 (2.6)	0.29
Discharge, n (%)									
Home	43 (98)	162 (100)	0.21	26 (90)	78 (92)	0.71	30 (71)	130 (84)	0.071
Facility	1 (2)	0 (0)		3 (10)	7 (8)		12 (29)	24 (16)	
LOS, mean ± SD	1.4±1.0	1.1±0.5	0.11	2.4±2.4	1.7±1.1	0.11	3.8±1.7	2.5±1.7	<0.001*
The values are given as the mean and standard deviation or as the number with the percentage in parentheses. *Statistical significance was determined with a <i>P</i> value less than 0.05.									

TH indicates tertiary hospital; CH, community hospital; PPC, provider preventable complications (defined by CMS); NS, not significant; LOS, length of stay.