

Beyond Cost-effectiveness of Treatment for Dupuytren Disease: What Is the Financial Impact on Healthcare Providers?

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Introduction

- Many studies have evaluated the cost-effectiveness of treatment modalities for Dupuytren’s Disease (DD).
- No studies have compared the reimbursement rates of these treatments.
- We aim to explore direct financial impact on the healthcare providers associated with different DD treatments.

Objectives

- To analyze the direct cost of available treatment modalities for DD.
- To contrast the reimbursement percentage across different insurance companies.

Materials and Methods

- We retrieved charge data on treatment associated with DD in a tertiary care hospital.
- Reimbursement rates from four insurance companies were obtained: Medicare, Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS), UnitedHealthCare (UHC), and Aetna.
- We used CPT codes to identify DD treatment:
 - Collagenous clostridium histolyticum (CCH) injection with manipulation procedure
 - Percutaneous needle aponeurotomy (PNA)
 - Open fasciotomy (OF)
 - Palmar fasciectomy (PF)
 - Single finger fasciectomy (SF)
 - Multi-finger fasciectomy (MF)
- Work Relative Value Units (RVU) and reimbursement per RVU were calculated.

Results

Table 1 – CPT Codes, Facility Charge, and Work RVU of Different Treatment Procedures for Dupuytren’s Disease

Treatment Procedures						
	CCH	PNA	OF	PF	SF	MF*
CPT code	I: 20527 M: 26341	26040	26045	26121	26123	SF: 26123 A: 26125
Charge	\$430.92	\$1864.7	\$2287.4	\$2710.6	\$3032.3	\$3893.2
Drug cost	\$6372.05	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Work RVU	I: 1.00 M: 0.91 Total: 1.91	3.46	5.73	7.73	10.88	SF: 10.88 A: 4.60 Total: 15.48

*I, Injection; M, Manipulation. *A, Add-on

Table 2 – Reimbursement Rate for Different DD Treatment Procedures Across 4 Insurance Sources

Treatment Procedures						
	CCH*	PNA	OF	PF	SF	MF
Medicare	36.0%	18.0%	22.0%	26.5%	29.2%	30.0%
BCBS	59.7%	26.8%	32.3%	62.8%	58.1%	63.1%
UHC	115.1%	47.9%	58.8%	63.7%	76.0%	80.2%
AETNA	81.7%	54.4%	48.2%	48.0%	57.9%	61.1%

*Drug cost not included

Reimbursement Rate per RVU

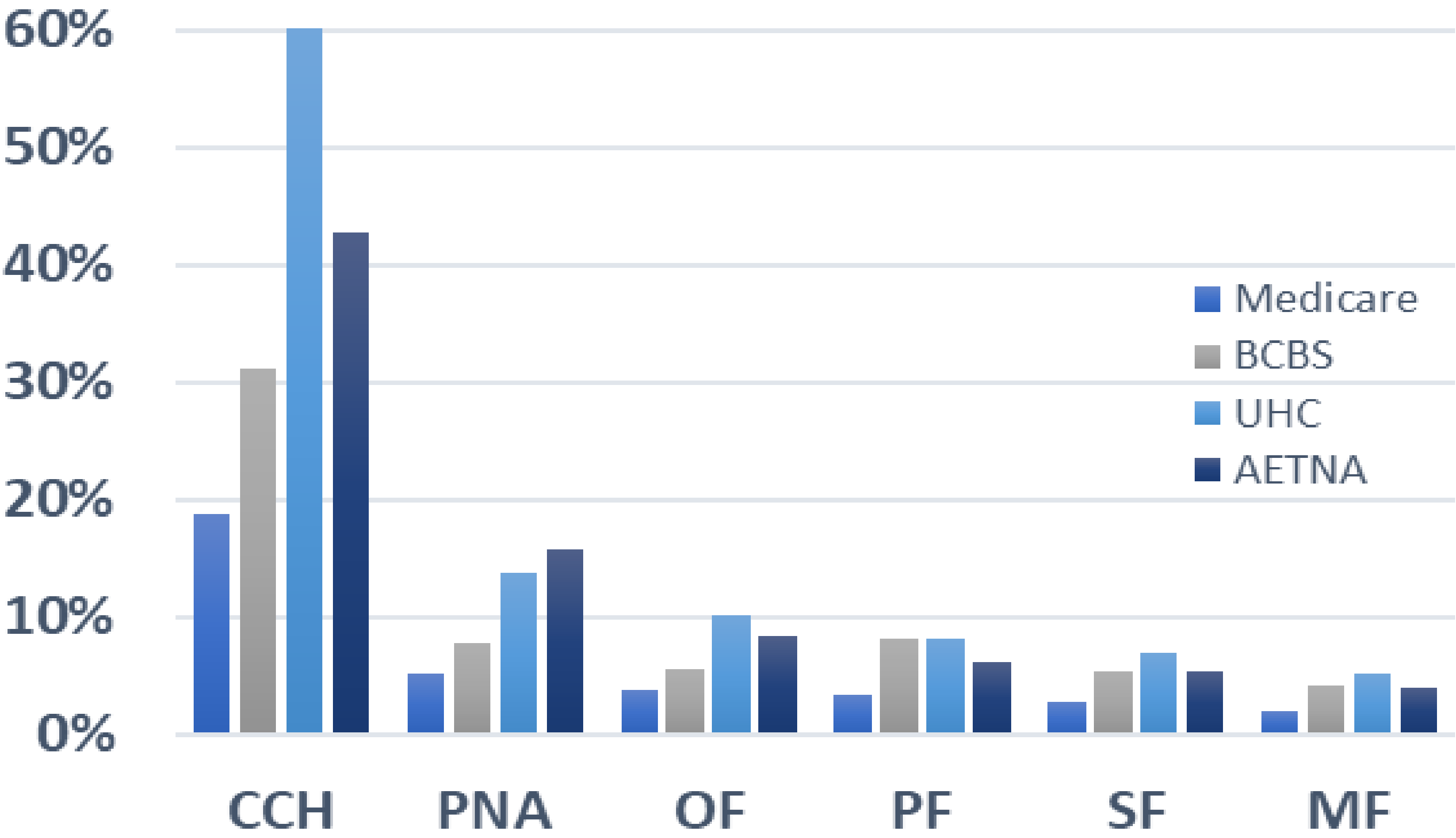


Figure 1 – Reimbursement Rate per RVU for Different DD Treatment Procedures Across 4 Insurance Sources

Conclusion

- The reimbursement rates for DD treatment differed across procedures and insurance sources.
- PNA offered the cheapest treatment modality but the lowest percent reimbursement.
- CCH injection incurred the highest charges for patients, but it provided the greatest reimbursement rate and reimbursement rate per RVU.