

# Physician-controlled costs: the choice of equipment used for atrial fibrillation ablation

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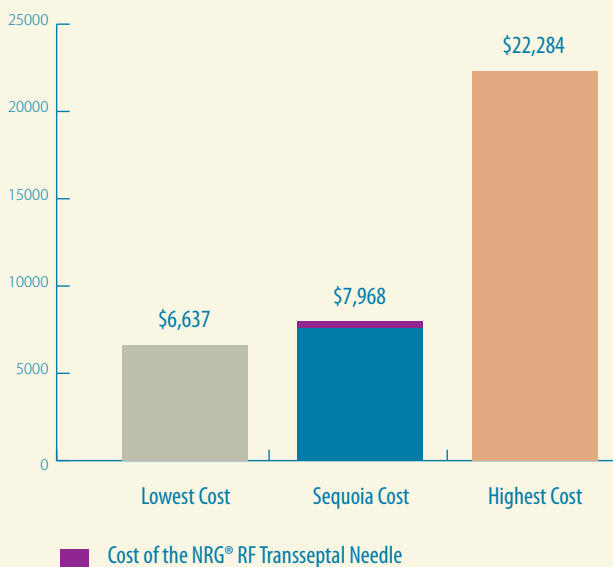
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- > This study evaluated the cost-per-procedure used to perform an AF ablation procedure.
- > The lowest estimated cost-per-procedure was \$6,637 and the highest estimated cost-per-procedure was \$22,284.
- > Sequoia Hospital follows a low cost-per-procedure equipment scenario of \$7,968, as they have found little scientific evidence to suggest that most of the higher valued equipment is safer or more efficacious.
- > Sequoia Hospital, however, routinely uses three higher valued devices:
  - Baylis NRG® RF Transseptal Needle
  - Bi-directional irrigated RF ablation catheter
  - Variable diameter circular catheter to verify PV isolation
- > The physicians use the Baylis NRG® RF Transseptal Needle because:
  - *"we have shown this needle to be both safer in terms of fewer tamponades and more efficacious with regard to more successful and faster septal crossing than using the standard transseptal needle"*<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> The use of a radiofrequency needle improves the safety and efficacy of transseptal puncture for atrial fibrillation ablation. Winkle et al.— Heart Rhythm, Vol 8, No 9, September 2011

## Cost-per-procedure



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Caution : Federal Law (USA) restricts the sale of these devices to or by the order of a physician.  
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