What are High Cost Procedures and How are Costs Calculated?

High cost procedures are health care services that are either performed frequently and result in high costs or the procedure itself is expensive. Many procedures are not limited to a single event - fees for providers, facilities, imaging, etc. accumulate before, during, and after the procedure and contribute to the overall price tag. To capture all associated costs, CIVHC uses an episode-based calculation that figures in all of the fees for a procedure from the first consult through the final visit.

Did You Know?
Across Colorado, the average knee replacement/revision costs $37,000, but some employers are paying as low as $23,000 and as high as $81,000 depending on where employees go?

What Can You Learn?
With this report, find out:

- Which procedures your employees are receiving that drive the highest cost.
- Potentially avoidable costs associated with each procedure.
- Post-procedure cost savings opportunities (physical therapy, labs, medications, etc.).
- Facility comparisons showing low and high cost facilities your employees are using statewide.

How Can You Use it?

- Understand where cost savings opportunities exist.
- Consider negotiating rates with facilities and/or creating benefit designs that incentivize employees to utilize high quality, low cost facilities.