



A \$1.9 Million NICU Bill: The Price Of Prematurity - Sequoia Branch

A new study has found that pregnant women exposed to air pollution and high temperatures are more likely to give birth to preterm, stillborn or underweight children. The review, published in [JAMA Network Open](#), examined more than 32 million births and found an association between climate change effects such as heat, ozone and fine particulate matter, and adverse pregnancy outcomes. As the number of preterm births rises, so does the number of babies in the NICU.....

Infant born at 26 weeks gestation. 126-day length of stay. Findings: Room and board revenue code adjustments based on documented daily nursing resources per the clinical record. Investigational pharmaceuticals per the American Academy of Pediatrics Policy statements and Compendia. Nosocomial infections-ventilator associated pneumonia and central line infection. Resolution was obtained with the facility.

Real world savings

Case: NICU admission at contracted facility

\$1,962,816 billed charges

\$1,319,012 contract payable charges

\$580,354 identified audit exceptions

\$929,014 total claim payable with audit

\$389,998 claim payable savings

Total Branch Payable Charge Savings 29.57%

