

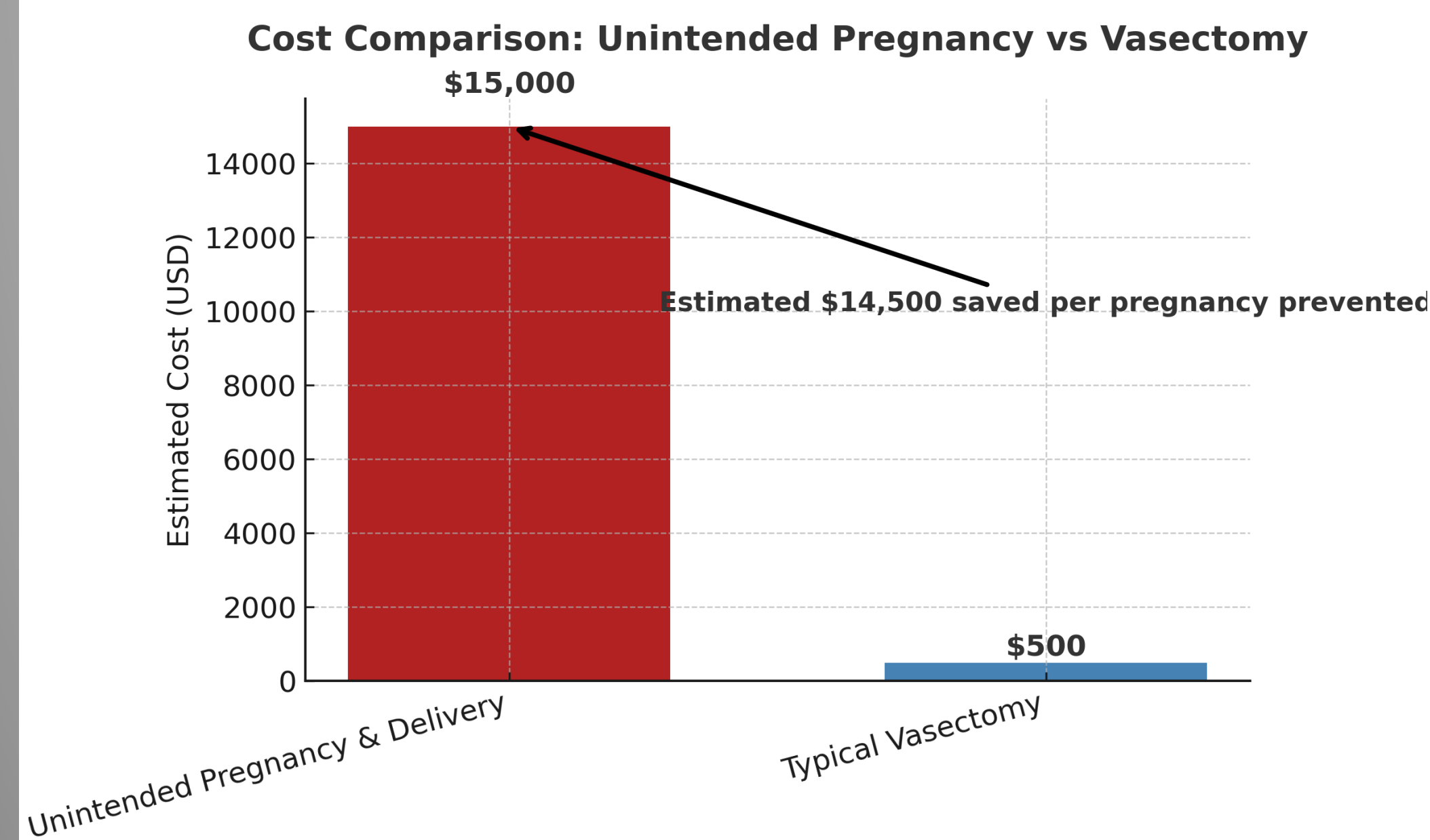
Pilot Free Vasectomy Night and Implications for Coverage Reform: A Proof of Concept for Policy and Access Expansion

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BACKGROUND

- Vasectomy is one of the most effective and cost saving permanent contraceptive methods but remains difficult to access for uninsured and underinsured men. Barriers include cost and limited public funding.
- Our pilot sits within a landscape where vasectomy access 15.7% states restrict male sterilization coverage. Barriers include cost and limited public funding.
- Cost of unintended pregnancy to public payers is on average \$15,000.



Procedure	Vasectomy	Tubal Ligation
Procedure Length	5-30 minutes	120-180 minutes
Effectiveness	0.15% failure	0.5% failure
Recovery Time	2 days	4-7 days
Cost	\$500-1400	\$5,000-8,500

Conclusion

- Free Vasectomy Night is feasible, safe, and cost conscious.
- We expose a clear gap in affordable vasectomy access that contributes to preventable unintended pregnancies and drives substantial cost to the American healthcare system.
- Expanding coverage and funding for vasectomy could reduce this burden, improve reproductive autonomy, and align with national advocacy priorities to increase access for medically underserved populations.
- Despite this, few scalable models exist to offer no-cost vasectomy in community settings.
- Our pilot program addresses this gap by demonstrating a low-resource, student-driven approach that could be replicated broadly while informing policy and coverage reform.*
- Ultimately, federal legislation funding for vasectomies will result in significant savings on a national level.*

METHODS

- A student run safety net clinic organized a no cost vasectomy event.
- Supplies were obtained through pooled purchasing for \$994 dollars to support about fifteen cases.
- Procedures were performed in an existing clinic room with volunteer faculty.
- Medical students participated in patient education and assistance.

Results

- One uninsured patient underwent vasectomy during the pilot and additional patients joined a waitlist for future events, demonstrating unmet demand.
- Estimated average cost of unintended pregnancy and delivery exceeds fifteen thousand dollars, while vasectomy is a fraction of that cost.
- The program created a replicable low resource model and meaningful trainee involvement.
- We partnered with our institution's media team, who attended the pilot event and conducted interviews. This generated media coverage that increased community awareness, expanded outreach to potential patients, and amplified advocacy around affordable men's health services.