

Medicare Reimbursement Trends Across Benign Urology Subspecialties from 2002 to 2025

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Background

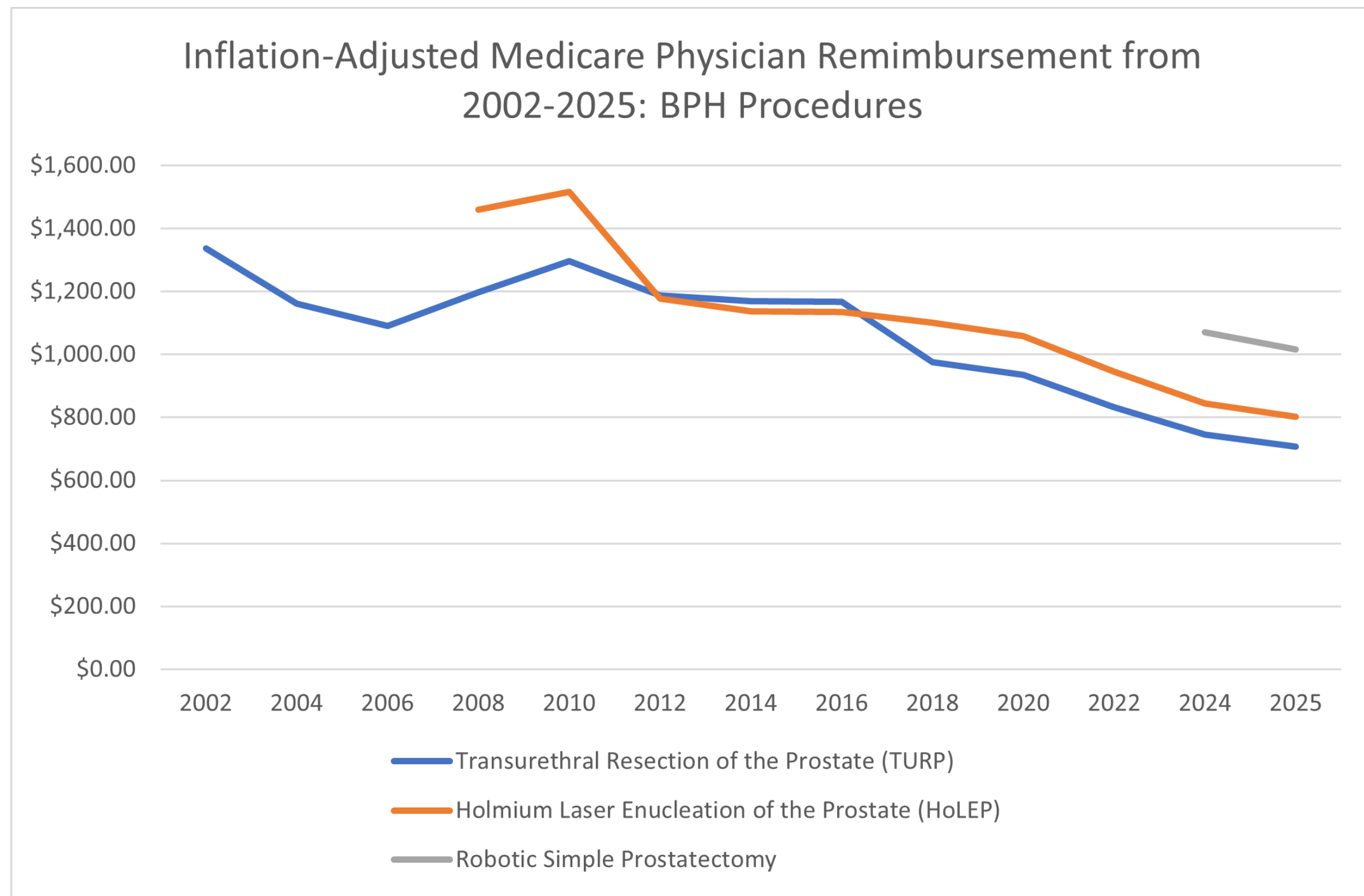
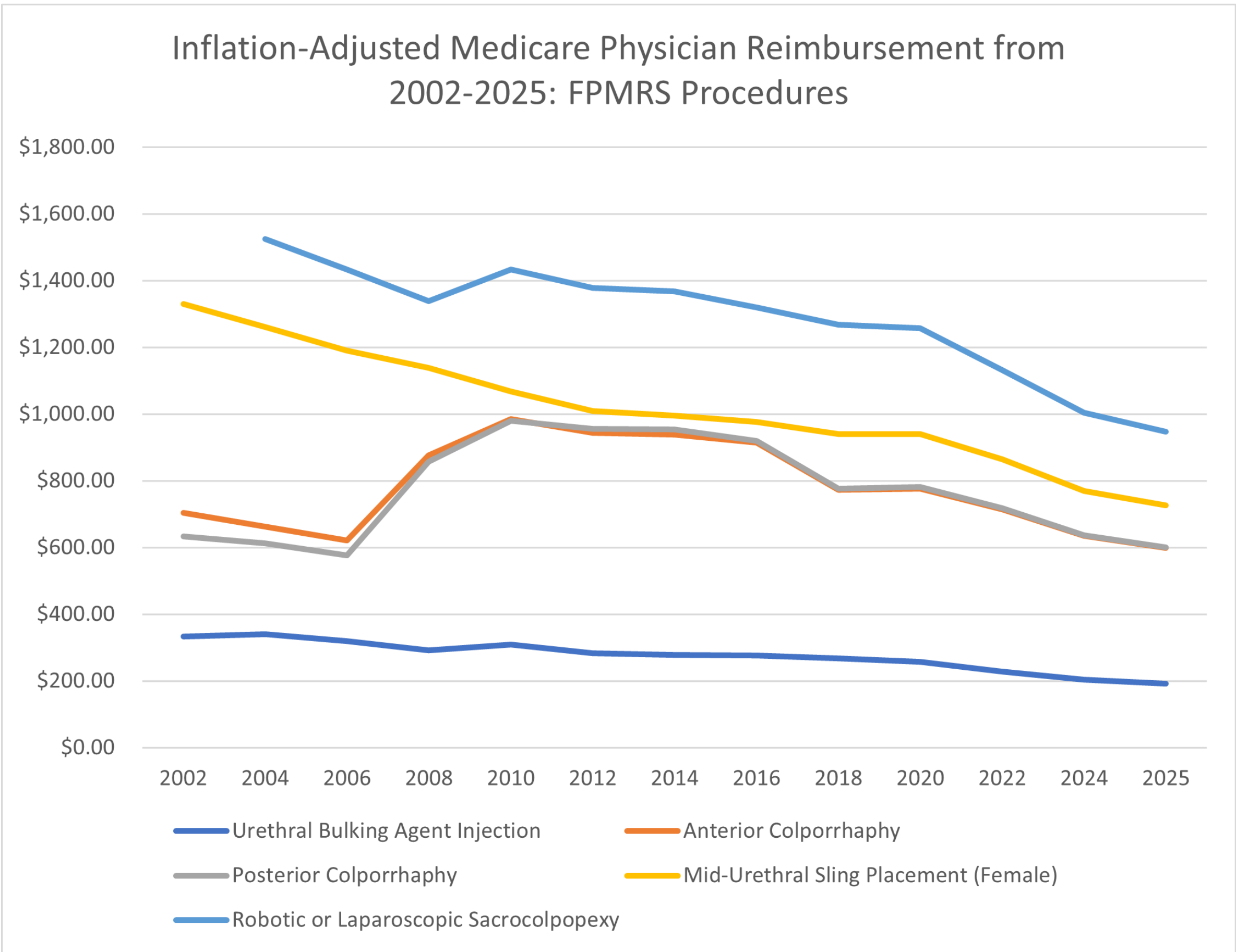
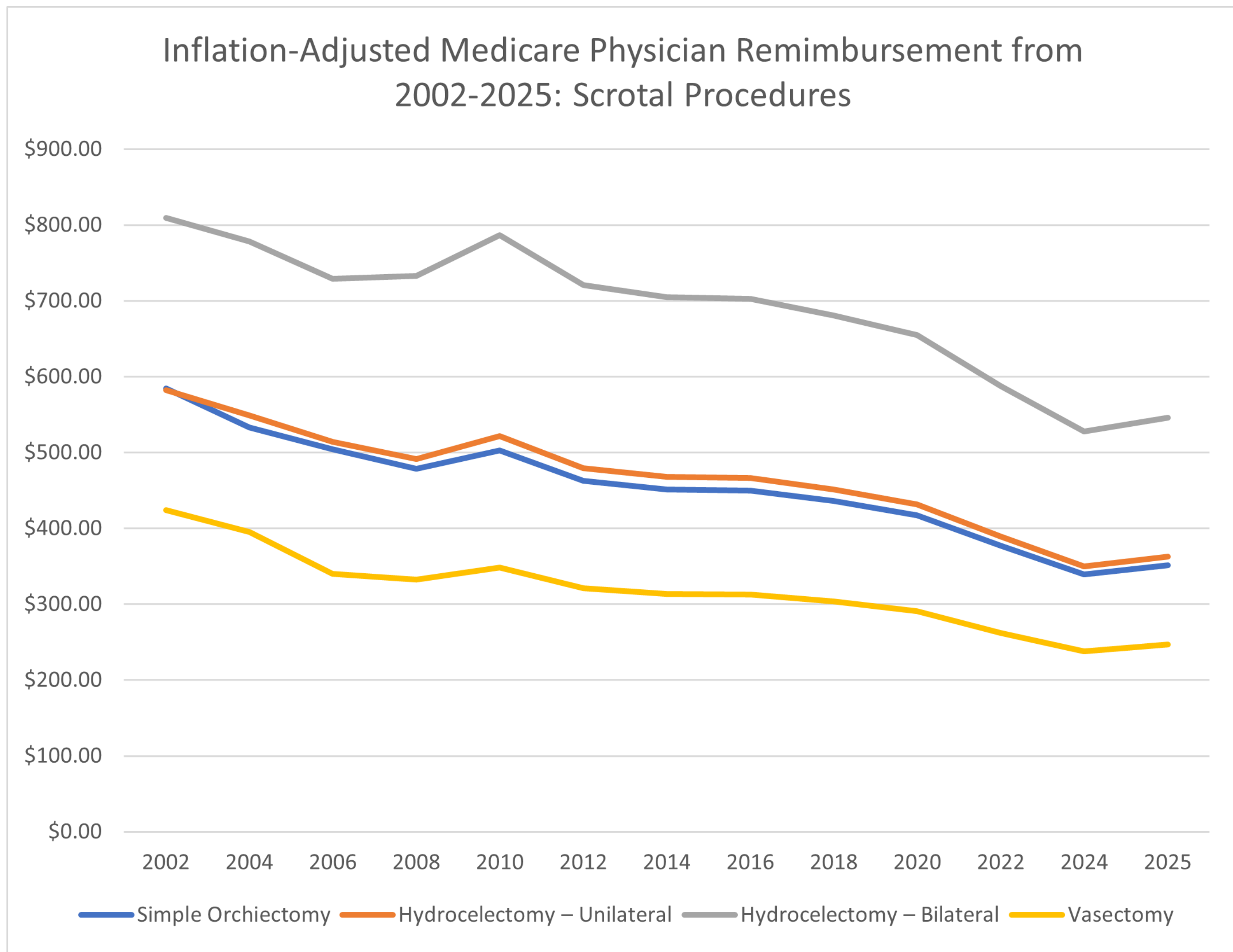
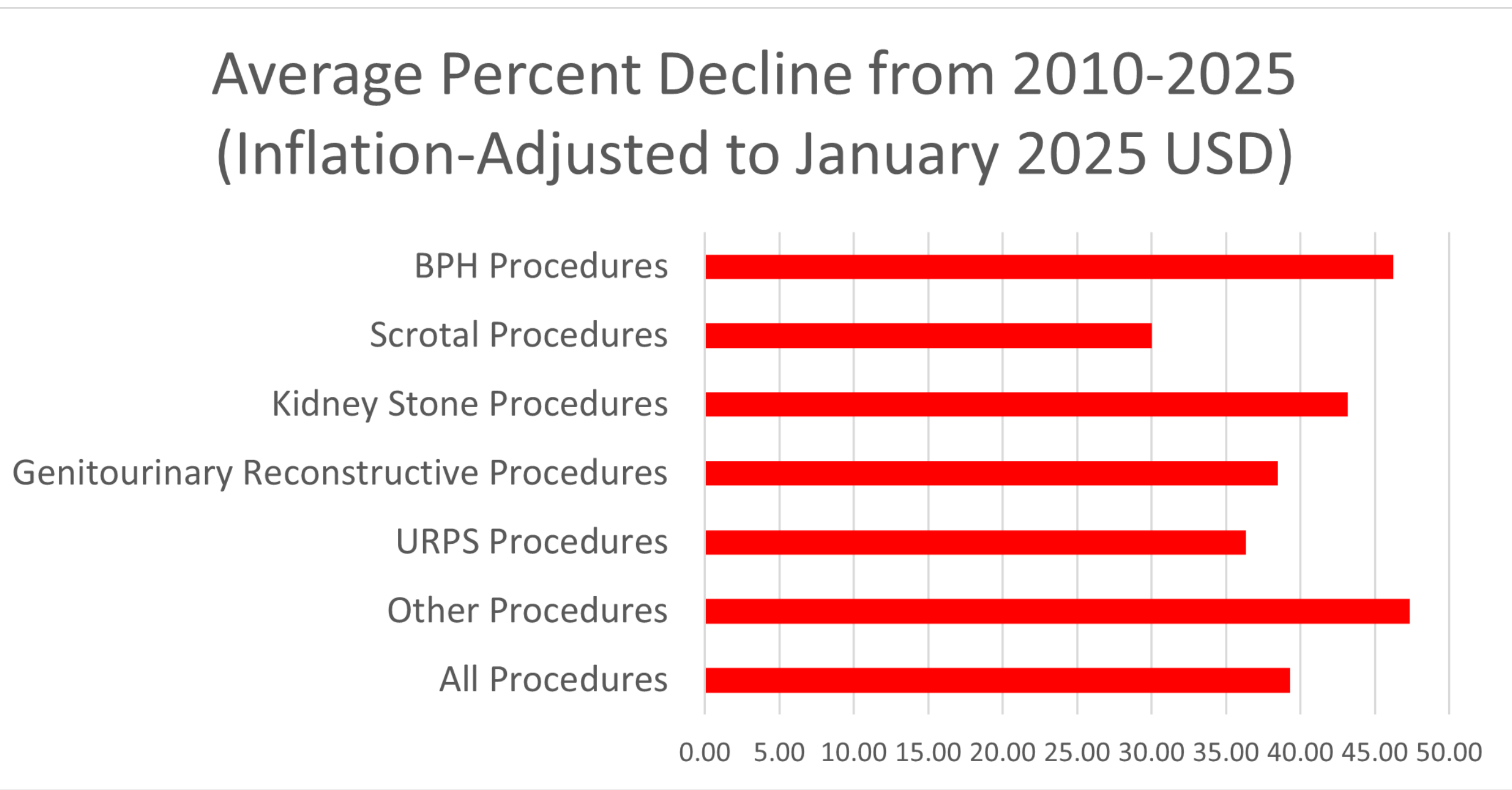
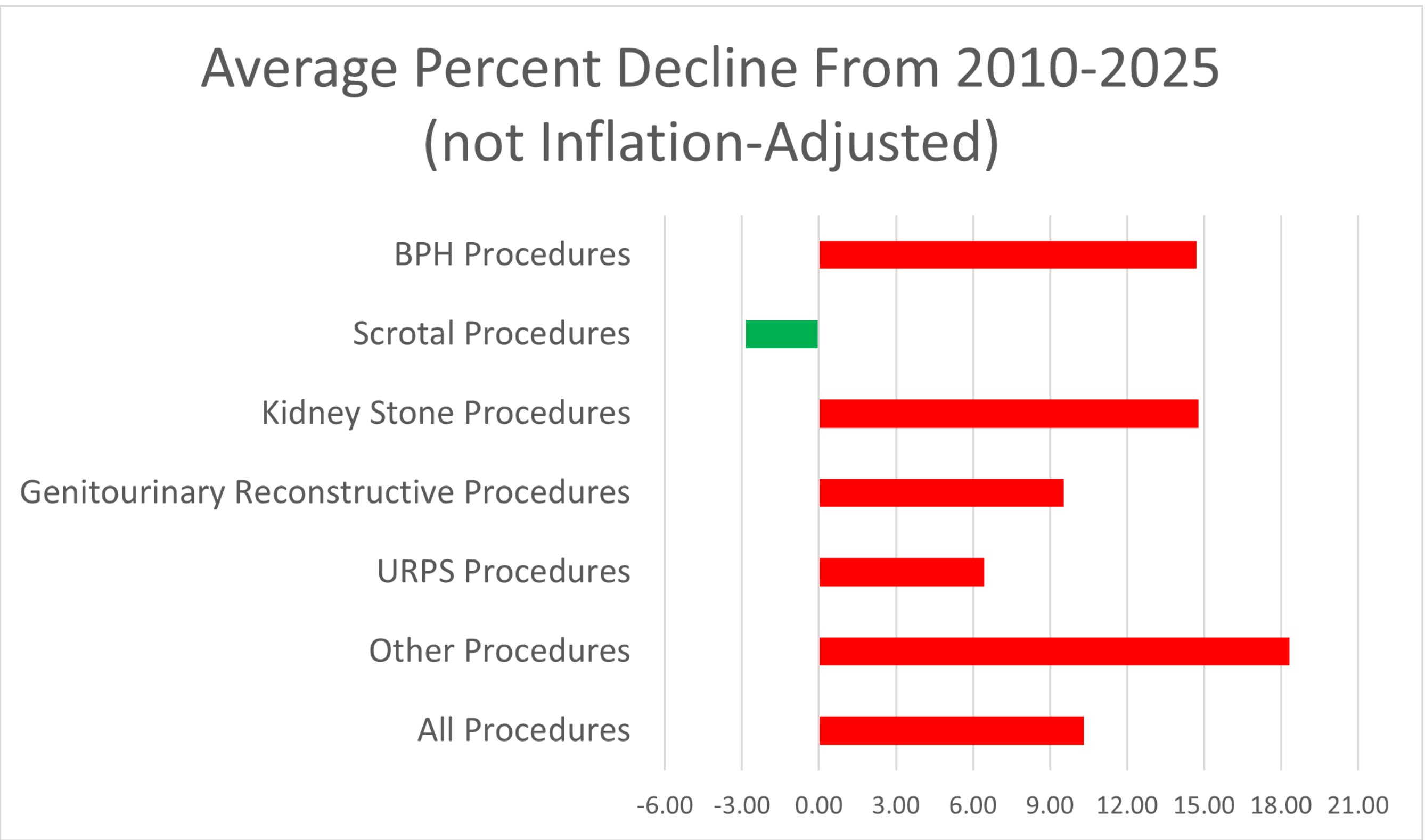
- Physician reimbursement for Medicare patients has **steadily declined**
- These trends **threaten practice sustainability** and **limit patient access to care**.
- Goal:** Provide **specialty-specific data** to inform **policymakers** and support **advocacy efforts** within urology.

Methods

- Data Source:** CMS Physician Fee Schedule Look-Up Tool (2002–2025).
- 29 common benign urology procedures.
- Reimbursement defined as the **Medicare facility price**.
- All payments **converted to 2025 USD** using the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**.
- Trends described** over time.
- Compound Annual Growth Rates (CAGR)** calculated for **2002–2025** and **2010–2025**.

Results

- Average reimbursement decreased by 41.6% (inflation-adjusted)**
- Average CAGR (Figures 1 and 2):**
 - 2002–2025: –0.06% nominal (–2.55% inflation-adjusted)
 - 2010–2025: –0.87% nominal (–3.43% inflation-adjusted)
- Consistent inflation-adjusted decline** in reimbursement across all procedural categories (Figures 3,4, & 5, selected line graphs displayed)



Conclusions

- Medicare reimbursement for benign urology procedures has **declined substantially** since 2002.
- These declines **jeopardize practice sustainability** and **reduce patient access to care**.
- Sustained advocacy** and **permanent policy reform** are critical to preserve the **viability of diverse urology practice settings**.