

Center of excellence

A center of excellence (CoE) is an organizational structure or [team](#) dedicated to a particular area of [expertise](#), often aiming to provide [leadership](#), [best practices](#), [research](#), [support](#), and [training](#) within that field. CoEs are commonly used in various sectors such as [healthcare](#), [technology](#), and [education](#) to drive [innovation](#) and improve performance.

In healthcare, a CoE might focus on a specific type of care or [treatment](#), like a center of excellence in neurosurgery or cancer treatment. These centers are typically recognized for their advanced clinical capabilities, research contributions, and high standards of patient care.

Padula et al. in an article, examine how avoidable [complications](#), post-acute healthcare use, [revision surgery](#), and [readmissions](#) among [spine surgery](#) patients contribute to \$67 million of wasteful spending on value defects. Furthermore, they estimated that almost \$27 million of these [costs](#) could be recuperated simply by redirecting patients to facilities referred to as centers of excellence. In total, [quality improvement](#) efforts are costly to implement but may only cost about \$36 million to fully correct the \$67 million in finances misappropriated to value defects. The objective of this article is to present an approach to eliminate defects in [spine surgery](#), including a [center](#) of [excellence](#) framework for eliminating defects specific to this group of procedures ¹⁾

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Padula WV, Smith GA, Gordon Z, Pronovost PJ. Value Defects in Spine Surgery: How to Reduce [Wasteful Care](#) and Improve Value. J Am Acad Orthop Surg. 2024 Sep 15;32(18):833-839. doi: 10.5435/JAAOS-D-23-00989. Epub 2024 May 24. PMID: 39240706; PMCID: PMC11384277.

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