

Navigating Financial Assistance Programs for Oncology Patients

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Background

- Oncology Medications out of pocket (OOP) costs are astronomical for patients
- 2022 New England Journal of Medicine out of pocket cost of \$10,000-\$15,000 annually for a single drug

Methods

- There are many charitable foundations to assist patients who have Medicare
- Most manufacturers offer copay cards for commercially insured patients
- Some manufacturers offer first-time vouchers for a 1-month supply to start patients while they get thru insurance obstacles
- As a last resort manufacturers may have patient assistant programs providing free medication

Discussion

- Helps under-insured patients with certain cancer diagnoses cover out of pocket costs related to cancer care
- Information needed from patient: consent, # in household, total household income, SSN
- Most assistance rely on the Federal Poverty Level ranging from 400%-600%

Objective

FundFinder: <https://fundfinder.panfoundation.org>
Lists all government programs that are open/closed
Some Individual Programs Include:

Brain Tumor: <https://braintumorcopays.org>

Cancer Care:

<http://www.cancercare.org/copayfoundation>

Good Days:

<https://www.mygooddays.org/patients/diseases-covered>

Healthwell Foundation:

<http://healthwellfoundation.org/diseases-and-medications>

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS):

<https://www.lls.org/support/financial-support/copy-assistance-program#Available%20Funding>

Patient Access Network (PANF):

<https://www.panfoundation.org/index.php/en/patients/assistance-programs>

Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF):

<https://www.copays.org/>

The Assistance Fund (TAF):

<https://tafcares.org/patients/covered-diseases/>

Vouchers: Look up drug and see if provided

Conclusion

- The purpose of these programs are to help cancer patients battle the financial burden put upon them
- The purpose of learning these programs are available help you help your patients to obtain treatments

Graphic

