Financial Toxicity & Cancer Care

The "Cost" of a Cancer Diagnosis
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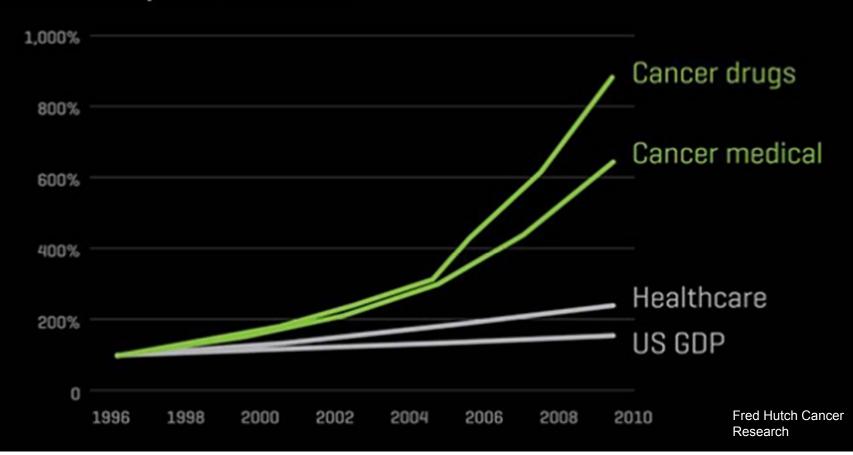
OBJECTIVES

- Understand the term financial toxicity
- Understand how cancer patients are impacted by financial cost of cancer treatment
- Understand how to address this issue with patients
- Understand resources to assist patients

Tom

Rising cancer care costs

Cumulative percent increase



Out of Pocket Expenses

50% of Medicare beneficiaries with cancer pay at least 10% of their income towards cancer treatment—related out-of-pocket costs

Savings

30% of patients surveyed said they depleted their savings

The 2017 Cancer Experience Registry Report

Bankruptcy

2.5 Times more likely to file bankruptcy

Correlation between bankruptcy and mortality

Association of Oncology Nurses Position Statement:

"The provision of accessible and affordable healthcare coverage includes consumer and patient engagement in decision making regarding availability, **cost**, and efficacy of treatment options and supportive care."

NURSES



Tom

Because of financial hardship...

20% took less than the prescribed amount of medication

24% avoided filling prescriptions

Cancer Experience Registry Index Report - 2017



Discomfort of financial conversations

73% of patients reported not discussing the cost of treatment with their care team

General Financial Resources

- Patient assistance programs at your institution
- Accessing Oncology SW, Financial Counselors
- CancerCare (www.cancercare.org)
- American Cancer Society (https://www.cancer.org/)
- Patient Access Network Foundation (www.panfoundation.org)

Medication Specific Resources

- Good RX
- Better Health Pharmacy
- HICAP (MediCare Part D & Supplement Counseling)
- Specialty Pharmacies: ACS, Diplomat
- Prescription Drug Manufacturers Patient Assistance Programs
- Association of Community Cancer Centers: Patient Assistance
 & Reimbursement Guide

Ask a Question