

# The Financial Burden of Cancer

**Cancer is a health crisis followed by a financial crisis** that spares no socioeconomic class or status. The financial burden brought on by a cancer diagnosis arises from interrupted income and increased out-of-pocket costs associated with treatment. As a result, patients face financial distress, the inability to adhere to treatment, and financial devastation - ultimately decreasing their chances of survival.



There are 17 million people living with cancer in the United States<sup>1</sup>



Up to 73% of patients will experience some form of financial burden<sup>2</sup>

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## Financial Devastation and Bankruptcy



Only 1/3 of cancer patients continue working full time after diagnosis<sup>3</sup>



Cancer patients are 2.65x more likely to file for bankruptcy<sup>4</sup>



42% of cancer patients deplete their entire life savings in 2 years<sup>5</sup>

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## Interrupted Access to Care



29% of patients skip doctors appointments<sup>6</sup>



31% cut oral medications in half<sup>6</sup>

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## Higher Mortality and Relapse Rates



Children from high-poverty areas relapse sooner than children in low-poverty areas<sup>7</sup>



The financial burden of cancer lowers a patient's chance of survival<sup>8</sup>

# Citations

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