CANCER IS COSTLY; STATES PAY THE PRICE

In less than 20 years, the total medical cost of cancer in the United States has nearly doubled. All payers feel the impact. States bear much of the cost.

NO TIME FOR GUESSWORK

WHEN IT COMES TO CANCER, EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS SAVE LIVES AND DOLLARS.

Public health agencies offer proven strategies for improving the quality and rate of cancer screening. Working with health systems and other partners to implement evidence-based interventions can significantly reduce health care costs and increase lives saved.

CANCER AFFECTS WORKFORCE PRODUCTIVITY

Cancer is one of the top five most costly diseases in the United States and leads to substantial work loss.

Medicare

Median state-level costs for cancer treatment

$2 BILLION

Median costs paid by Medicare

32.5%

Median costs paid by Medicaid

4.8%

SCREENING NOW SAVES DOLLARS LATER

60 to 89% of the costs of screening pre-Medicare patients (ages 50 to 64) for colorectal cancer would be offset by savings in future Medicare treatment costs.

CANCER AFFECTS WORKFORCE PRODUCTIVITY

Cancer is one of the top five most costly diseases in the United States and leads to substantial work loss.

6.1 DAYS

Median state-level days lost per year among employed cancer patients

$115.9 MILLION

Median annual state-level cancer absenteeism costs

EARLY DETECTION REDUCES COSTS

Late-stage cancer requires more expensive treatment. Colon cancer stage 4 treatment is three times more expensive than stage 1 treatment costs.

$10 THOUSAND

Additional Medicaid end-of-life costs during final 4 months for patients with cancer compared to those without cancer.

MEDICAID COSTS FOR BREAST CANCER IN PATIENTS YOUNGER THAN 65 YEARS

Local Cancer

Regional Cancer

Distant Cancer

TREATMENT COST ($ THOUSANDS)

At 6 months

At 24 months
EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS WORK

USING MULTIPLE EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS INCREASES SCREENING RATES

24% Increase in adults up-to-date with colorectal cancer screening after using patient navigators + client reminders + provider reminders.7

Patient navigators at a major urban health system:8

- Reduced no-show/cancellation rates by 3%
- Generated revenue that paid for 2 navigator salaries after 3.5 months.
- Generated $150,000 in additional hospital revenue (per Navigator).

Patient navigators and increased access to screening at an urban hospital center9 increased five-year survival rates in breast cancer from 39% to 70%.

5 YEAR SURVIVAL RATE