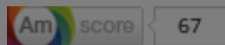


Impact of Financial Burden of Cancer on Survivors' Quality of Life

Authors: [Kathleen M. Fenn](#), [Suzanne B. Evans, MD, MPH](#), [Ruth McCorkle, PhD](#), [Michael P. DiGiovanna, MD, PhD](#), [Lajos Pusztai, MD, DPhil](#), [Tara Sanft, MD](#), [Erin W. Hofstatter, MD](#) ... [SHOW ALL](#) ... , and [Anees B. Chagpar, MD, MSc, MPH, MA, FRCS\(C\), FACS](#) | [AUTHORS INFO & AFFILIATIONS](#)

Publication: Journal of Oncology Practice • Volume 10, Number 5 • <https://doi.org/10.1200/JOP.2013.001322>



Abstract

Purpose:

Little is known about the relationship between the financial burden of cancer and the physical and emotional health of cancer survivors. We examined the association between financial problems caused by cancer and reported quality of life in a population-based sample of patients with cancer.

Methods:

Data from the 2010 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) were analyzed. A multivariable regression model was used to examine the relationship between the degree to which cancer caused financial problems and the patients' reported quality of life.

Results:

Of 2,108 patients who answered the survey question, "To what degree has cancer caused financial problems for you and your family?," 8.6% reported "a lot," whereas 69.6% reported "not at all." Patients who reported "a lot" of financial problems as a result of cancer care costs were more likely to rate their physical health (18.6% v 4.3%, $P < .001$), mental health (8.3% v 1.8%, $P < .001$), and satisfaction with social activities and relationships (11.8% v 3.6%, $P < .001$) as poor compared to those with no financial hardship. On multivariable analysis controlling for all of the significant covariates on bivariate analysis, the degree to which cancer caused financial problems was the strongest independent predictor of quality of life. Patients who reported that cancer caused "a lot" of financial problems were four times less likely to rate their quality of life as "excellent," "very good," or "good" (odds ratio = 0.24; 95% CI, 0.14 to 0.40; $P < .001$).

Conclusion:

Increased financial burden as a result of cancer care costs is the strongest independent predictor of poor quality of life among cancer survivors.

Get full access to this article

View all available purchase options and get full access to this article

To ensure the optimal website experience, ASCO utilizes permanent cookies and web beacons/pixel tags for a multitude of purposes, including site functionality, display of personalized and recommended content, and the collection of analytics to help improve how our customers engage with us. Clicking "Accept All" allows you to access all features of this website. For more information, see our [Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms of Use](#).

Settings

Reject All

Accept All

The article by Fenn, et al, entitled, "Impact of Financial Burden of Cancer on Survivors' Quality of Life" (J Oncol Pract 10.1200/JOP.2013.001322), was published online May 27, 2014 with errors.

In the author affiliations, the location for Yale School of Medicine and Yale School of Nursing was given as Boston, MA, whereas it should have been New Haven, CT.

Also, the title was incorrectly given as "Impact of Financial Burden of Cancer on Survivors' Quality of Life?".

This has been corrected as of July 21, 2014.

Authors' Disclosures of Potential Conflicts of Interest

The authors indicated no potential conflicts of interest.

ADVERTISEMENT

ADVERTISEMENT

ASCO Career Center

Hematology Oncology Opening with Large Academic Health System - Philadelphia

Pennsylvania | Competitive Salary and Benefits Package

Opportunity to join one of the nation's premier health systems in an established group of hematology oncology physicians. Position Highlights: - Am...

Employer: Jackson Physician Search [Apply for this job](#)



Oncology Opening | Metro Indiana | Low Patient Volume

Indiana | Competitive Salary and Benefits Package

A top hospital in Indiana, that was voted within the top 10 of, "Top 200 Most Loved Workplaces in America" is looking for their next Oncologist to...

Employer: Jackson Physician Search [Apply for this job](#)



Penn Medicine Clinician (Hematology/Oncology Division)

Cherry Hill, New Jersey | \$20,000.00 - \$230,000.00 Annual Rate

University of Pennsylvania seeks candidates for a full-time position as a medical oncologist/ hematologist to join our New Jersey physician group.



To ensure the optimal website experience, ASCO utilizes permanent cookies and web beacons/pixel tags for a multitude of purposes, including site functionality, display of personalized and recommended content, and the collection of analytics to help improve how our customers engage with us. Clicking "Accept All" allows you to access all features of this website. For more information, see our [Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms of Use](#).

Settings

Reject All

Accept All

[View full text](#) | [Download PDF](#)

ASCO[®]

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY
KNOWLEDGE CONQUERS CANCER

JOURNALS

[Journal of Clinical Oncology](#)
[JCO Oncology Practice](#)
[JCO Global Oncology](#)
[JCO Clinical Cancer Informatics](#)
[JCO Precision Oncology](#)
[JCO Oncology Advances](#)

PUBLICATIONS

[ASCO Educational Book](#)
[ASCO Daily News](#)
[ASCO Connection](#)
[The ASCO Post](#)
[ASCO Podcasts](#)

CONTENT

[Journal Podcasts](#)
[Topics](#)
[Meeting Abstracts](#)
[ASCO Guidelines](#)

INFORMATION

[Author Center](#)
[Subscriber Center](#)
[Permissions](#)
[Reprints](#)
[Advertise](#)
[E-Alerts](#)
[View My Profile](#)
[About ASCO Journals](#)

✕ FOLLOW US

[JCO_ASCO](#)
[JCOOP_ASCO](#)
[JCOGO_ASCO](#)
[JCOPO_ASCO](#)
[JCOCCL_ASCO](#)

ASCO

[About ASCO](#)
[Press Center](#)
[Meetings & Education](#)
[Contact Us](#)

ASCO WEBSITES

[asco.org](#)
[ASCO Career Center](#)
[Conquer Cancer](#)

[American Society of Clinical Oncology](#)

2318 Mill Road, Suite 800, Alexandria, VA 22314

© 2025 American Society of Clinical Oncology

[Site Map](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Cookies](#)

To ensure the optimal website experience, ASCO utilizes permanent cookies and web beacons/pixel tags for a multitude of purposes, including site functionality, display of personalized and recommended content, and the collection of analytics to help improve how our customers engage with us. Clicking "Accept All" allows you to access all features of this website. For more information, see our [Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms of Use](#).

Settings

Reject All

Accept All