

THE COST OF CANCER

These statistics are from Jama Oncology Medical study by Amol K. Narang, MD and Lauren Hersch Nicholas, PhD, MPP. **It focuses on cancer costs over a period of 10 years from 2002 to 2012. The article was published in June of 2017.**

This will show detailed data on out-of-pocket expenditures using the following cost categories: inpatient hospitalization, nursing home, clinic visits with a physician, dental care, outpatient surgery, prescription drugs, home health care, and other health services.

KEEP IN MIND:

- Only 12% of Medicare beneficiaries had a Medicare Advantage plan. This is important when looking at the price gap between MAPDs and Medicare Supplements.
- Costs will likely be higher today than what is shown in the study.

ORIGINAL MEDICARE ONLY

- 20% of all costs for Part A & B of Medicare
- Average cost: \$8,115
- 90th percentile: \$17,866

EMPLOYER-SPONSORED INSURANCE

- Subject to max-out-of-pocket, co-insurance, and co-payments listed on the plan
- Average cost: \$5,492
- 90th percentile: \$11,437

MEDICARE HMO

- Subject to max-out-of-pocket, co-insurance, and co-payments listed on the plan
- Average cost: \$5,976
- 90 percentile: \$10,761

MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT

- Subject to Part B deductible
- Average cost: \$5,670
- 90th percentile: \$11,755

NON-MEDICAL COSTS

Though these costs are not tracked in the JAMA study, they must be taken into consideration when looking at the cost of a cancer diagnosis. In many cases, the out-of-pocket costs are more catastrophic than the medical costs.

EXAMPLES OF NON-MEDICAL COSTS:

- Experimental treatment
- Comfort items (wigs, clothes, etc)
- Extra money towards prescription drugs
- Home care / lawn care / pet care / etc.

