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Help for Patients

The costs of cancer treatment can quickly become overwhelming, even if you have medical insurance. Patient assistance programs are offered by various companies, nonprofits, and government agencies to help patients with little or no insurance get access to drugs and money for other treatment-related expenses.

If you're interested in enrolling in a patient assistance program, you must first gather information, usually from your doctor. In most cases, the maker of the drug you're taking, for which you need assistance, will have an application that tells you what information is needed. A doctor must be involved in the process because the physician writes the prescription for the medication.

Many patient assistance applications will require proof of income, including tax returns, Social Security income, interest, and retirement, to prove financial burden and to meet income requirements. Faxing the information often speeds up the process. In addition to many state governments, numerous organizations provide information on patient assistance programs, including the ones listed below. For more listings, visit www.curetoday.com/assistance_programs.

Amgen Oncology Assistance

800-272-9376

www.amgen.com/patients/assistance.html

AstraZeneca's AZ&Me

800-292-6363

www.azandme.com/making

Bristol-Myers Squibb Patient Assistance Foundation

800-736-0003

www.bmspaf.org

CancerCare

800-813-4673

www.cancercare.org/get_help/assistance

Genentech Access Solutions

866-422-2377

www.genentechaccesssolutions.com

GlaxoSmithKline's Commitment to Access

866-265-6491

www.commitmentoaccess.com

Lilly Cares

800-545-6962

www.lillycares.com

Partnership for Prescription Assistance

888-477-2669

www.pparx.org

Patient Advocate Foundation Co-Pay Relief

866-512-3861

www.copays.org

Pfizer Helpful Answers

877-744-5675

www.pfizerhelpfulanswers.com

RxAssist

www.rxassist.org

RxHope

732-507-7400

www.rxhope.com

Together Rx Access

800-444-4106

www.togetherrxaccess.com