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## The medical treatment expenditures for patients with cancer

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**Statement of the Problem:** With the advancement of cancer diagnostic and therapeutic methods, the total cost of cancer treatment is increased. Cancellation costs can reduce patients' access to essential treatments and ultimately impairment in health and quality of life. Due to high prevalence of cancer, increased survival, patient's therapeutic needs and the development of expensive equipment, as a result, patients tolerate financial stress and stressful conditions.

**Aims:** This study was conducted to determine the cost of treatment for cancer patients. This descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted to determine the cost of treatment for cancer patients in Rasht, Iran.

**Material & Methods:** Of all 412 records filed of cancer patients were documented in within 3years, 374 were included in the study. A demographic questionnaire and patient medical records were used to collect data. Data were analyzed by descriptive (frequency, mean, SD) and inferential tests (T test and ANOVA & Pearson).

**Results:** The results showed that the mean age of the samples was  $14.77 \pm 51.50$  years. 45.2% of the samples had gastrointestinal cancers and 14.2% had breast cancer and 13.9% had hematology. 12.3% of patients had metastases. The average total cost of patients is  $1749.99 \pm 1861.30$ \$. The patient's contribution was  $111.72 \pm 134.90$ \$ and the insurance contribution was  $1495.66 \pm 1681.63$ \$. There was a statistically significant relationship between the total cost of the patients and the type of cancer ( $P=0.0001$ ,  $F=11.3$ ,  $DF=7$ ) and the number of admissions ( $P=0.0001$ ,  $r=0.5$ ). The economic impact of years after the diagnosis of cancer and the survivors of cancer is remarkable.

**Conclusions:** With the growing population of cancer survivors, efforts to reduce the economic burden of cancer will become increasingly important.

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