



FACT SHEET Cancer Concerns Survey Results

Based on a nationally representative sample of 1,022 Americans 18 years of age or older interviewed by telephone June 26-30, 2009.

Approximately 8 out of 10 (79%) Americans report that a member of the family or a friend has ever been diagnosed with cancer.

CONCLUSION: The vast majority of Americans are close to someone with cancer.

If they were to develop cancer, Americans would be most concerned about:

Having a poor quality of life 75% VERY CONCERNED

Being in pain 72%

Paying for treatment 69%

Dying from it 68%

Leaving your family in debt 59%

Being unable to work 61%

Losing your hair due to chemotherapy 31%

CONCLUSION: Paying for treatment is among Americans' top concerns about cancer, along with having a poor quality of life, being in pain and dying from the disease.

Less than half (45%) of Americans believe their health insurance plans would cover the full cost of cancer treatment, including diagnosis, doctor visits, tests and medication.

1 in 3 (31%) say their plans would ***not*** cover the full cost of cancer treatment, 17% do not know and 6% say they do not have a health insurance plan

CONCLUSION: Less than half of Americans believe their insurance plans would cover the full cost of cancer treatment.

Only 25% of Americans believe that a person covered under Medicare would be covered for the full cost of cancer treatment, including diagnosis, doctor visits, tests and medication.

64% believe Medicare would ***not*** cover the cost of treatment, and 11% do not know.

CONCLUSION: Three quarters of Americans do not believe Medicare would cover the full cost of cancer treatment.

From half to three quarters of Americans believe their health insurance plan would cover cancer care in various types of care facilities:

Hospital 70%
Hospice 46%
Community cancer clinic 41%
Home 37%

CONCLUSION: Only 41% of Americans believe they would be covered for care in a community cancer clinic, where 84% of cancer treatment actually occurs.

Only a third (37%) of Americans say they or their households would be able to pay UP TO \$1,000 PER MONTH towards cancer care not covered by their health insurance plans. 59% say they would **not** be able to pay it and 4% do not know.

CONCLUSION: More than 6 out of 10 Americans could NOT pay up to \$1,000 per month towards cancer care.

Only 16% of Americans say they or their households would be able to pay UP TO \$2,500 PER MONTH towards cancer care not covered by their health insurance plans. Most (78%) say they would **not** be able to pay it and 6% do not know.

CONCLUSION: More than 8 out of 10 Americans could NOT pay up to \$2,500 per month towards cancer care.

Americans report they would take a variety of actions if they were not able to pay the cost of cancer treatment not covered by their insurance plans:

Going on government assistance 66%
Selling your car 53%
Borrowing the money 49%
Declaring bankruptcy 42%
Selling your house 41%
Stopping the treatment 32%
Putting the cost of cancer treatment on credit cards 24%

CONCLUSION: 6 out of 10 Americans report they would go on government assistance to pay the cost of cancer treatment. Half would sell their cars or borrow the money. 4 out of 10 would sell their homes. One third would stop treatment.

Americans perceive a variety of DISADVANTAGES FOR CANCER CARE in a government-run health plan, compared to their own current insurance plans:

Higher taxes 69%
Longer wait for medical appointments 63%
Less coverage of expensive cancer medications or treatments 59%
Less coverage of cancer detection and diagnostic tests 52%
Lower quality of care 55%
NO DISADVANTAGE/NONE OF THESE 8%

CONCLUSION: Americans see higher taxes as the mostly likely disadvantage for cancer care of a government-run health plan, while more than half cite negative impacts on treatment and quality of care. In all 85%, perceive at least one disadvantage.

Methodology

The telephone survey was conducted by Opinion Research Corporation among a national probability sample of 1,022 adults comprising 515 men and 507 women 18 years of age and older, living in private households in the continental United States. Interviewing was completed during the period June 26-29, 2009.

The most advanced probability sampling techniques were employed in the selection of households for telephone interviewing. Opinion Research Corporation utilizes an unrestricted random sampling procedure that controls the amount of serial bias found in systematic sampling to generate its random-digit-dial sample. The sample is fully replicated and stratified by region. All sample numbers selected are subject to up to four attempts to complete an interview.