



International Myeloma Foundation

**Co-Pay Assistance Programs
and Concerns Webinar**

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SPEAKERS



Robin Roland Levy
Senior Director Public Policy and Advocacy
International Myeloma Foundation



Paul Hewitt
Infoline Coordinator
International Myeloma Foundation

& ... YOU Patient and Caregiver Stories



International Myeloma Foundation

AGENDA

➤ Overview of the Issues

Robin Roland Levy

➤ Patient and Caregiver Stories

Moderated by Paul Hewitt

➤ Next Steps

Robin Roland Levy



Issue

Over the past few weeks, the International Myeloma Foundation's InfoLine has been flooded with calls from patients and caregivers facing insurmountable financial challenges due to the high cost of drugs and increases in insurance copays. In the past, several services have been available to provide financial assistance to patients; but the current atmosphere has severely limited the availability of those funds.



OVERVIEW

- The way we treat cancer is changing, with oral anti-cancer medications playing an increasingly important role. These targeted therapies – available in pill form- directly attack cancer cells, often with few side effects.
- Traditional anti-cancer medications were primarily administered intravenously and covered under a health plan's medical benefit, often requiring patients to pay minimal co-pay or no cost at all for the medication.
- Oral anti-cancer medications are usually part of the health plan's pharmacy benefit, often resulting in high, burdensome out-of-pocket costs through coinsurance (requiring patients to pay a percentage of the overall cost of the prescription drug).
- This disparity negatively impacts patient adherence and forces physicians to make decisions based on outdated health plan benefit designs rather than what is best for the patient.



CANCER DRUG PARITY ACT

The Cancer Drug Parity Act requires any health plan that provides coverage for cancer chemotherapy treatment to provide coverage for self-administered anticancer medication at a cost no less favorable than the cost of IV, port administered, or injected anticancer medications.

The law is not a mandate as it only applies to health plans that already cover chemotherapy. This bill ensures equality of access and insurance coverage for ALL anti-cancer regimens. Health insurance cost-sharing schemes should not create barriers to cancer patients' ability to access potentially life-saving medicines.



TELECONFERENCE GROUND RULES

- Limit your story to a few minutes
- This is not a political forum
- This is not a place to seek medical advice
- Please speak slowly and clearly
- **This teleconference is being recorded. By participating you are granting permission to the IMF to use your stories to raise awareness of the issue.**



PHARMACEUTICAL ASSISTANCE

- ✓ Call the support line of the pharmaceutical company for the drug(s) you have been prescribed to see if you qualify for their assistance program.

Here is a list of the drug companies and the drugs they manufacture:

- Celgene - Revlimid , Thalomid, and Pomalyst (all taken orally): Celgene Patient Support® 1(800)931-8691
- Takeda - Velcade (given subcutaneously or by IV): 1(866)835-2233
 - Ninlaro (taken orally): Ninlaro 1Point™ 1(844)617-6468
- Janssen - Darzalex (given by IV): Care Path® 1(844)533-2792
- Amgen - Kyprolis (given by IV): AmgenAssist 360® program 1(855)669-9360
- Novartis - Farydak (taken orally): 1(844)327-9325
- Bristol-Myers Squibb - Empliciti (given by IV): Bristol-Myers Squibb Access Support® 1(844)367-5424



PATIENT ASSISTANCE FOUNDATIONS

- ✓ Call or email the patient assistance foundations to see if they currently have funds for myeloma patients and to what are their requirements.

Here are the co-pay foundations:

- CancerCare Co-Payment Assistance Foundation: 1(866)552-6729
cancercarecopay.org/
- LLS Co-Pay Assistance Program: 1(877)557-2672,
lls.org/support/financial-support/co-pay-assistance-program
- Patient Advocate Foundation Co-Pay Relief Program: 1(866)512-3861
copays.org/
- GoodDays (formerly the Chronic Disease Fund): (877)968-7233
mygooddays.org/en/for-patients/patient-assistance/
- Healthwell Foundation: 1(800) 675-8416,
healthwellfoundation.org
- Patient Access Network Foundation: 1(866)316-7263



NEXT STEPS

➤ www.myeloma.org

- Find a **SUPPORT GROUP** near you - <https://www.myeloma.org/support-groups>
- Call the **INFOLINE** – 1-800-452-CURE (2873) or e-mail Infoline@myeloma.org
- Become an **IMF ADVOCATE** - Go to - <https://www.myeloma.org/advocacy-action-center> and send a pre-drafted e-mail to your legislator or e-mail advocacy@myeloma.org

