



Cancer Resource Services – Network Access Only

Deliver better outcomes at reduced costs

Cancer is the second most common cause of death in the United States, exceeded only by heart disease, according to the 2021 American Cancer Society facts and figures.

Cancer Resource Services

Optum® Cancer Resource Services is designed to deliver better outcomes at reduced costs by providing access to a national network of quality cancer centers. The program focuses on rare and complex cancers for which practice variability and expenses tend to be high. However, the program may be used for any type of cancer care.



The financial cost of cancer

The National Cancer Institute estimates that cancer-related direct medical costs in the U.S. were **\$183 billion** in 2015 and are projected to increase to **\$246 billion** by 2030.¹



Access to leading care

Cancer Resource Services provides access to top-performing cancer centers across the country. The Cancer Centers of Excellence (COE) Network comprises 39 leading cancer centers, each meeting strict evaluation criteria based on the following:

- Multidisciplinary approach to care
- Program depth and breadth
- Best-practice medicine
- Patient- and family-oriented programs and services
- Patient volume
- Treatment planning and coordination
- Clinical research
- Patient safety

While the Cancer COE Network is intended to complement local hospital and physician care, treatment at a COE may be the best option even if it is far from home. Potential benefits include:

- Higher rates of accurate diagnoses and appropriate therapy
- Fewer complications
- Planned and coordinated care provided by a team of experts who specialize in the many types of cancer, including rare cancers
- Higher survival rates, shorter stays and decreased costs
- Expanded treatment options
- COEs can be useful for seeking treatment or a second opinion on the diagnosis and/or treatment

Value-based care designed to deliver positive outcomes at a reduced cost

Approximately one-third of all new diagnoses are considered uncommon or complex, which can result in tens of thousands of dollars in treatment costs. We help lower case costs through shorter hospital stays and reduced unnecessary and inappropriate treatment. Nurse-to-nurse consultation is also available as needed.



Member Institution (nccn.org)



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Sources:

1. National Cancer Institute. Future of Cancer Health Economics Research Conference. cancercontrol.cancer.gov/events/future-of-heroic. Updated November 24, 2020. Accessed September 2, 2022.
2. Optum internal analytics, 2020-2021.