

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MEDICATIONS

Insurance but low finances for co-pays? No Insurance? Little to no income for medications?

Compiled by Charles (Chuck) Maack – Prostate Cancer Activist/Mentor

You should ask every physician you visit who prescribes any medication if he/she can provide you samples or if he/she would make the necessary contact to get this medication for you at no, or very low, cost.

If experiencing financial problems with little savings or income, explain your financial plight to any physician you need to treat your condition and ask if there are any programs providing medicine requirements at little or no cost.

For those patients to be prescribed Zytiga/abiraterone, more assistance for cost provided by Janssen as well as Johnson & Johnson here:

<http://www.janssenaccessone.com/pages/zytiga/patientassist/intro.jsp>

For patients prescribed Xtandi/enzalutamide:

<http://www.astellasaccess.com/home/hcp/xtandi/>

For uninsured or underinsured:

http://www.needymeds.org/drug_list.taf?_function=name&name=Xtandi

XGEVA/denosumab Financial Assistance

http://www.amgenassist.com/support_programs/xgeva_support.jsp

LUPRON/leuprolide acetate Financial Assistance

http://www.pparx.org/supporters/ViewProgram.php?program_id=770

ELIGARD/leuprolide acetate Financial Assistance

<http://tinyurl.com/mydyrsc>

AVODART/dutasteride

And other GlaxoSmithKline medications

<http://www.gskforyou.com/patient-assistance-programs/drugslist.html>

If you are on Medicare, have Metastatic Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer (mCRPC), and your income level is less than 5 times the Federal Poverty Level, you can receive co-pay assistance from ZERO – The End of Prostate Cancer organization who has teamed up with the Patient Access Network Foundation (PAN) to provide this assistance. Please read the following to apply:

<http://tinyurl.com/j2ffd3z>

Several organizations are identified here: <http://tinyurl.com/oy9qc6w>

Ask any physician you must visit if with drugs he/she administers in office or prescribes, does he/she have contact with "Partnership for Prescription Assistance" to assist patients like yourself whose finances have been depleted because of loss of employment and by treatment requirements. If he or she does not have such contact, is there a program to provide treatment and medications at little or no cost to patients with life threatening disease as well as financial stress.

You can also apply directly to Partnerships for Prescription Assistance patient assistance. Patients should call toll-free 1-888-4PPA-NOW (1-888-477-2669) to speak with a trained specialist or visit <https://www.pparx.org/> . By doing the foregoing, you can likely find out if you qualify for free or greatly reduced costs for the medication you need or may need. Those medications, to help you remember, are likely among the following:

Androgen Deprivation Agents

Leuprolide Acetate (Lupron)

Bicalutamide/Casodex

Flutamide/Eulexin

Nilutamide (Nilandron)

Dutasteride (Avodart)

Finasteride (Flutamide)

Advanced ADT agents

Ketoconazole (Nizoral)

Hydrocortisone

Chemotherapy agents

Docetaxel (Taxotere)

Bevacizumab (Avastin)

Estramustine (Emcyt)

Calcitriol

Carboplatin

Celebrex

All the above are available through the Partnership for Prescription Assistance if

you qualify.

Another Free Medicine Program for those who qualify is explained here:

<http://www.freemedicineprogram.org/about.html>

Medications/drugs from Alldaychemist of India are much less expensive than in the USA. However, I obviously cannot vouch for the medications being absolutely equivalent in performance to those available here in the U.S. I can only remark that many prostate cancer patients have been purchasing their medications from this source and finding that the medications are as effective as local purchase.

<http://www.alldaychemist.com/>

AstraZeneca says: "if you have no insurance and you are an individual making up to \$30,000 or less, 2 family members up to \$40,000 or less, 3 family members up to \$50,000 or less, 4 family members up to \$60,000 or less, or 5 family members up to \$70,000 or less, you may qualify for an AZ&Me Prescription Savings program for drugs manufactured by AstraZeneca. There are other plans if you have some insurance or Medicare Part D.

Drug list:

- ACCOLATE® (zafirlukast) Tablets
- ARIMIDEX® (anastrozole) Tablets
- ATACAND HCT® (candesartan cilexetil-hydrochlorothiazide) Tablets
- ATACAND® (candesartan cilexetil)
- CASODEX® (bicalutamide) Tablets
- CRESTOR® (rosuvastatin calcium)
- FASLODEX® (fulvestrant) Injection
- MERREM IV (meropenem for injection)
- NEXIUM® (esomeprazole magnesium) Delayed-Release Capsules
- NEXIUM® Oral Suspension (esomeprazole magnesium)
- NEXIUM® I.V. (esomeprazole sodium)
- PLENDIL® (felodipine) Extended-Release Tablets
- PULMICORT RESPULES® (budesonide inhalation suspension)
- PULMICORT FLEXHALER™ (budesonide inhalation powder, 90 mcg & 180 mcg)
- RHINOCORT AQUA® (budesonide) Nasal Spray
- SEROQUEL® (quetiapine fumarate) Tablets
- SEROQUEL XR® (quetiapine fumarate)
- SYMBICORT® (budesonide/formoterol fumarate dihydrate)
- TOPROL-XL® (metoprolol succinate) Extended-Release Tablets

- ZOLADEX® (goserelin acetate implant) 1-month 3.6 mg Depot
- ZOLADEX® (goserelin acetate implant) 3-month 10.8 mg Depot
- ZOMIG-ZMT (zolmitriptan) Orally Disintegrating Tablets
- ZOMIG® (zolmitriptan) Nasal Spray
- ZOMIG® (zolmitriptan) Tablets

"The AZ&Me™ Prescription Savings program for people with Medicare Part D is designed to provide significant savings to qualifying people enrolled in Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage plans but are having difficulty affording their AstraZeneca medicines. Click on the below to determine if you qualify as well as to register:

<http://www.astrazeneca-us.com/help-affording-your-medicines/>

Here is yet another source of assistance:

Co-pay relief for prostate cancer patients:

The Patient Advocate Foundation announced additional funding for prostate cancer patients through its Co-Pay Relief Program

The Hampton-based nonprofit received a substantial contribution to provide the assistance. The Patient Advocate Foundation offers mediation to patients nationally for access to care, maintenance of employment and preservation of their financial stability. The Co-Pay Relief Program provides direct financial support for pharmaceutical co-payments to insured patients, including Medicare Part D beneficiaries, in 20 disease categories who financially and medically qualify, according to the news release.

Since 2004, the program has doled out more than \$77.65 million to more than 36,000 patients nationwide who were unable to afford out-of-pocket prescription expenses, the nonprofit said.

In 2009, 18 percent of patients who requested information and assistance from the nonprofit reported pharmaceutical co-pay expenses as their number one access issue. Forty-five percent of the patients seeking help were over the age of 65, a 25% increase from 2008.

For more information about the Patient Advocate Foundation, visit www.patientadvocate.org or call (800) 532-5274.

For more information about the Co-Pay Relief Program, visit www.copays.org or call (866) 512-3861.