

Financial toxicity



A diagnosis of neuroendocrine cancer can affect far more than physical health.

It often brings emotional strain and unexpected financial challenges that can feel difficult to manage. Physical and mental wellbeing play a crucial role in a person's capacity to make financial decisions, cope with financial pressure, and seek appropriate support.

It is important to begin conversations early with your treating doctor about costs and the financial options available to you. Be open and honest about any financial pressure related to your care and work together in partnership to ensure you may receive the best possible treatment, care and support.

If you are unsure where to start, resources such as [example questions to ask](#) can help to begin the discussion.



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Financial impact of cancer

For many individuals and families, the financial impact of cancer can add another layer of stress and anxiety.

This experience – referred to as financial toxicity – is a common but often overlooked consequence of cancer.

Knowing where to start and what support is available can make a difference in reducing this burden.

Financial toxicity can emerge as a side effect of treatment.

A cancer diagnosis may disrupt a person's ability to maintain a steady income, while also introducing additional expenses such as medical costs, travel, and daily living adjustments.

Together, these factors can accumulate to create financial stress.



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Mental Health Impacts

The effects of financial stress on mental health can be significant.

Addressing financial concerns early can provide clarity, reduce uncertainty, and create a pathway toward greater stability.

Practical steps such as developing a budget, speaking with a financial counsellor, exploring government support, and reviewing personal circumstances including superannuation, insurance, and debt, can help individuals regain a sense of control.

Support Services

In Australia, Services Australia offers a range of supports for patients and carers, including concessions, rebates, the Disability Support Pension, JobSeeker Payment, and Carer Payment.

Eligibility varies, and navigating these options can be complex.

Speaking with a Financial Information Service officer can be a helpful first step in understanding your individual situation and available supports.



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Support Services

Seeking professional guidance early can ease the stress associated with financial toxicity and help you make informed decisions.

The following organisations may provide useful information and support:

- **Cancer Council Australia** – Financial assistance and support services
- **Services Australia Financial Information Service** – Free financial information and education
- **Money Smart** – Guidance on managing finances during illness
- **Financial Counselling Australia** – Access to free, independent financial counselling



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