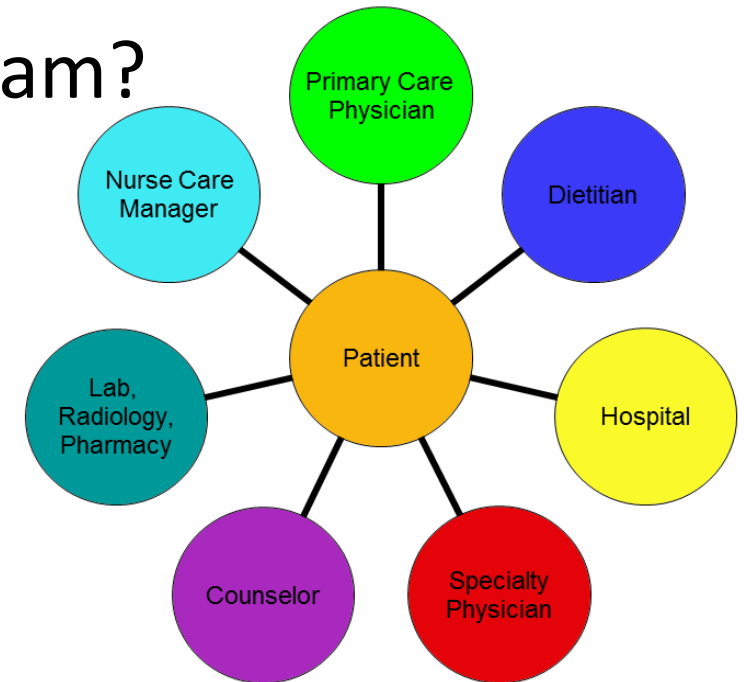




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# Where to start...

- Now that you have been diagnosed with cancer... What's next?
- Who are the members on your medical team?
- Understanding your treatment plan?
- Working during treatment?
- Identifying your financial responsibilities?



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In a 2012 survey done by Cancer Support Communities, 63.5 % of respondents indicated that they had experienced emotional distress as a result of the cost of cancer care.



Just remember you are not alone in this journey there is a lot of support available to you.

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# Role of the Oncology Social Worker in a Hospital Setting...

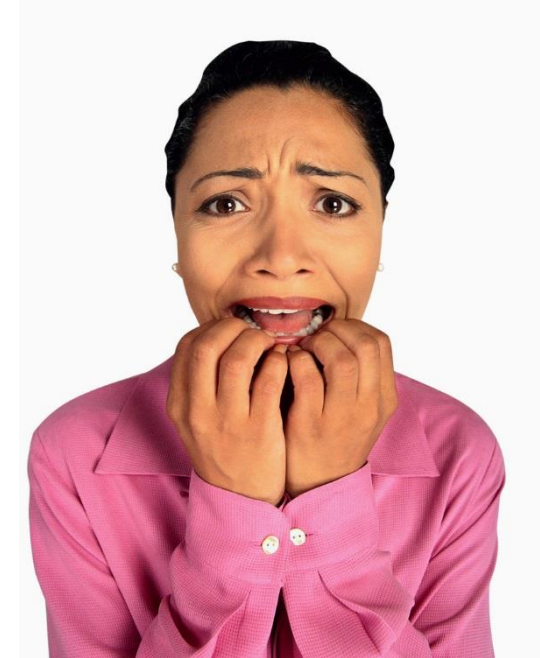
An oncology social worker works as a part of an interdisciplinary team caring for cancer patients and caregivers. Social Workers in a healthcare setting assist with some insurance questions, linking community resources, community outreach, support groups, discuss barriers on access to care, and provide counseling to process the psychological impact of the cancer diagnosis.



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# Focused topics:

- Psychosocial Support
- Educational Resources
- Financial Resources
- Employment and Legal Resources
- Pharmaceutical Resources
- Government Resources
- Electronic Tools to assist



# Psychosocial Support

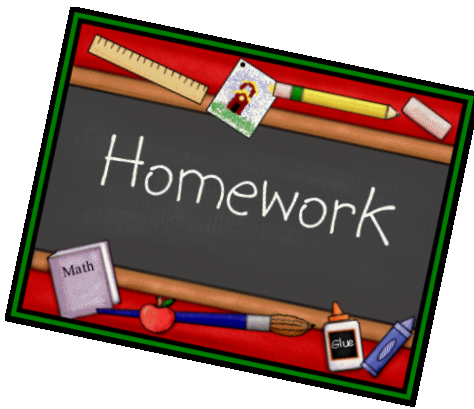
- Psychosocial support has been shown with improvement in pain, depression, quality of life, assessing barriers to care, and self-efficacy in patients and caregivers.
- Reaching out to an Oncology Social Workers (OSW) to explore your options both financial and emotional.
- It's extremely important to manage your stress levels.



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# Do your



- Have you compared your insurance bills to the hospital bills and EOB?
- Do you have a dedicated individual during your treatment from your insurance company; such as a case worker, who can recommend how to keep your health cost low?
- Are you aware of the follow up testing required after treatment and cost?



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# Educational Resources



**Online:**  
**Cancer Care**

<http://www.cancercare.org/>

**Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**

[www.lls.org](http://www.lls.org)

**Stupid Cancer**

<http://www.stupidcancer.org/>

**Survivorship A to Z**

<http://www.survivorshipatoz.org/cancer>

**Cancer.net**

<http://www.cancer.net/>

**Local Resources to South Florida:**

**American Cancer Society-gift closet**

[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

**Gilda's Club of South Florida**

<http://gildasclubsouthflorida.org/>

**Cancer Support Community**

<http://cancersupportcommunitymiami.org/>

**Clinical Trials/Research**

<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer>

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# Financial Resources

## Cancer Care

800-813-4673

<http://www.cancercares.org/>

Provides resources for co-pay assistance, financial assistance applications, and educational resources/webinars.

## The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

800-955-4572

[www.lls.org](http://www.lls.org)

Provides co-pay assistance, financial resources, educational resources, state wide support groups, and patient and healthcare providers focus educational outreach.

## Healthwell Foundation

800-675-8416

<https://www.healthwellfoundation.org/>

Provides Co-pay assistance and medication assistance.

## National Marrow Donor Program

(post transplant cost)

888-999-6743

[www.marrow.org](http://www.marrow.org)



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# Financial Resources (Cont'd)

## Child Cancer Fund

904-396-4223

[www.childcancerfund.org](http://www.childcancerfund.org)

The fund assists families in North East Florida and South East Georgia – must be treated at Wolfson or Nemours Children Clinic (Jacksonville, FL).

## Cancer Financial Assistance Coalition

[www.cancerfac.org](http://www.cancerfac.org)

Provides a database focused on national and regional organizations that provide financial assistance.

## Other organization to consider:

Faith Based Charities

First Call For Help (211)/ [www.211.org](http://www.211.org)

United Way

American Cancer Society



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# Employment and Legal Resources

## Cancer and Careers

646-929-8032

<http://www.cancerandcareers.org>

Focus: “Be the boss of your cancer”

Provides coaches to review resumes, legal assistance to protect your job and know your employment rights, and tips on finding employment opportunities.



## Patient Advocate Foundation

800-532-5274

[www.patientadvocate.org](http://www.patientadvocate.org)

Assists in solving patient problems focusing on access to care, medical debt and job retention.

## Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC)

866-THE-CLRC

[www.cancerlegalresources.org](http://www.cancerlegalresources.org)

Provides a national hotline, outreach programs, and community events to educate and support cancer patients and families regarding governmental benefits, medical leave, and estate planning.

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# Pharmaceutical Resources

## **NeedyMeds**

800-503-6897

<http://www.needymeds.org/>

Database of low cost medication and pharmaceutical company assistance.  
(May require income verification)

## **RxOutreach**

888-796-1234

<http://rxoutreach.org/>

Low income online prescription options.

## **Other options to consider:**

Speak with Medical Provider/Nurse to discuss co-pay issues and/or generic options.

Speak with insurance company about preferred pharmacy and/or bulk ordering of medication.



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# Government Resources

## Medicare

<https://www.medicare.gov/>

## Medicaid/Food Stamps (Florida)

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

## Alliance for Aging

<http://www.allianceforaging.org/consumers/get-help-information/adrc>

## Social Security Administration

<https://www.ssa.gov/>

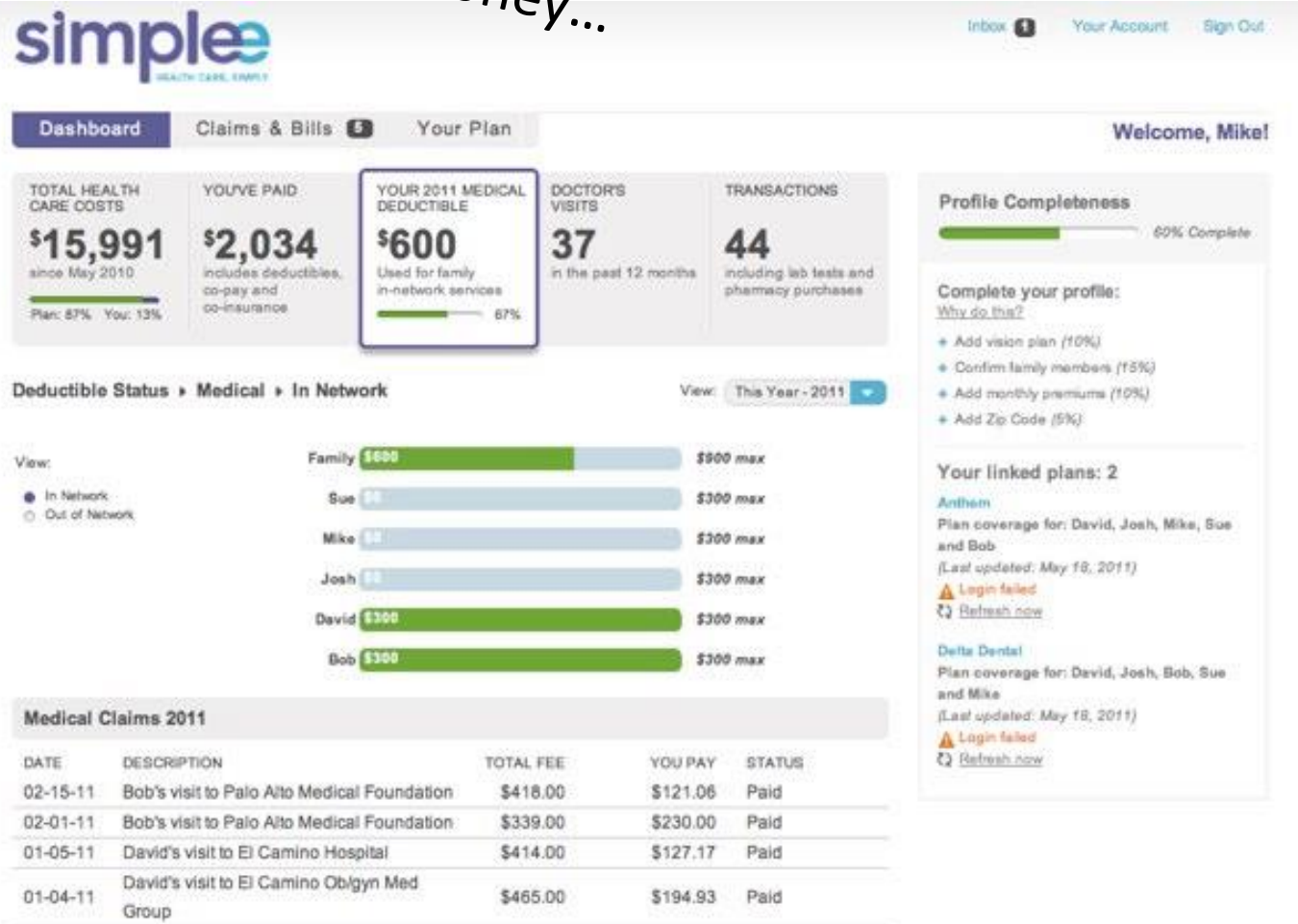
## Healthcare.gov

<https://www.healthcare.gov/>

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Track your  
money...

## Online E- Tools



Food For Thought:  
Article below about getting the most from  
your insurance plan: in network, out of  
network, and FSA account.

<http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/2012/09/getting-the-most-from-your-health-insurance/index.htm>

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*Highlighting an organization:*

**Jack & Jill Late Stage Cancer Foundation**

<https://jajf.org/>

*More information about Cancer Resources*

[http://www.patientresource.com/financial\\_resources.aspx](http://www.patientresource.com/financial_resources.aspx)



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