

**Toolbox Resources for  
Cancer Programs**

Erin Reuter, JD, MS  
Senior Manager, Accreditation

1

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Disclosures**

Nothing to Disclose

2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**The Health Equity Taskforce of the CoC is focusing on developing toolboxes for accredited Cancer Programs to utilize, with a focus on Financial Toxicity related to cancer care and Health Literacy.**

**The intention of the toolboxes is to provide education and resources for CoC accredited programs to assist them in patient care, program development, and utilizing these topics to help meet CoC accreditation standards.**

3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Health Equity Taskforce	
Susan Hedlund, LCSW, FAOSW	
Ruta Rangel, MS	
Eucharía Borden, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C	
Laurie J. Kirstein, MD, FACS	
Maggie A. Smith, DNP, MSN/Ed, RN, OCN	
Ana María Lopez, MD, MPH, MACP, FRCP	
Patricia Sylla, MD, FACS	

4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

CoC Standards & Opportunities to Address Health Equity	
2.1: Cancer Committee	Encourage cancer committee to include members from diverse backgrounds
4.1, 4.2, and 4.3: Physician, Oncology Nursing, and ODS Credentials	Offer or encourage continuing education to focus on health equity in cancer care topics
4.4: Genetic Counseling & Risk Assessment	Evaluate populations with barriers to genetic testing and counseling due to transportation, fear, lack of knowledge, cost, etc during required annual review
4.8: Survivorship Program	Select a service that focuses on including patients from diverse populations that have barriers to seeking services
5.2: Psychosocial Distress Screening	Identify the stressors that are particularly severe to underserved patients, which keep them from completing treatment. Identify resources to overcome those barriers

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

CoC Standards & Opportunities to Address Health Equity	
7.3: Quality Improvement Initiative	Select a topic focused on a known health equity issue in your program
7.4: Cancer Program Goal	Select a goal(s) focused on overcoming a barrier for a underserved populations in your community
8.2 & 8.3: Cancer Screening & Prevention Events	Target prevention and screening events to reach underserved, uninsured, or patients that have barriers to receiving care in your community
9.1: Clinical Research Accrual	Include discussion of how to address barriers to accruing patients to clinical research

6

---

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

# Toolkit

- Purpose Statement
- Background & Overview of Problem
- Cultural Humility Considerations
- Overview of Financial Toxicity and Health Literacy concerns and related resources
- Recommendations where topics can be addressed within CoC Standards

### Background and Overview of Problem



**Financial Toxicity and Cancer Treatment**

- In recent years, the cost of cancer treatment has skyrocketed, placing an immense financial strain on individuals and their families.
- This burden can have an impact on a patient's emotional well-being, quality of life, and treatment compliance.
- The term "financial toxicity" is defined as both an obstacle to financial health and subjective financial distress.

Learn more about the financial toxicity burden of cancer on high-income or those who are dealing with other social issues such as health care and insurance.

patients by checking the study by Vogel et al. (2016) and the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

**Health Equity**

Health equity is the state where everyone has the opportunity to attain their highest level of health, but where those who have experienced the greatest barriers to health have had their needs met.

**Health Literacy**

Health literacy is the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, understand, and use health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.

**Issues**

Health equity is a critical part of the mission of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). The organization is committed to addressing the health care needs of all patients, regardless of their socioeconomic status.

**Underlying Factors**

Health equity is a complex issue that is influenced by a variety of factors, including social, economic, and environmental factors. These factors can create barriers to health care and contribute to health disparities.

Health equity is a complex issue that is influenced by a variety of factors. The impact of the financial burden of cancer on high-income or those who are dealing with other social issues such as health care and insurance.

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Thank you

8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---