
Supplementary Material*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Examples of Flyers Developed to Communicate Costs of Cancer Care</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Interview Guides for Cancer Survivors: First Version</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Interview Guide for Survivors: Second Version</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Interview Guide for Cancer Center Staff</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This supplementary material was provided by the authors to give readers further details on their article. The material was reviewed but not copyedited.
I. EXAMPLES OF FLYERS DEVELOPED TO COMMUNICATE COSTS OF CANCER CARE

The cost flyers developed in this study summarized potential out of pocket costs of a sample of older women in Medicare. These costs were measured by the payment amounts for medical care received that women were responsible for through deductibles, coinsurance, or copayments. We developed two different formats. One reported costs for all care received in time intervals starting from the date of diagnosis. We developed two versions: one with 3 months intervals and one with 6 months intervals. Another flyer format presented costs related to specific treatments: these flyers presented costs for the cancer treatment only and for all care received along the duration of that treatment. The flyers shown in Supplemental Figure 1 are versions of the flyers revised after a first round of interviews with breast cancer survivors. Supplemental Figure 1A shows an example of the flyer by time format in which time intervals were 3 months. Average costs ranged from about $2,000 in the first three months post diagnosis, to about $800 in months 10 to 12. The flyers also included the minimum costs for the 10% women in the sample with the highest costs. In Supplemental Figure 1A, these costs ranged from about $4,000 in the first three months post diagnosis to about $2,300 in months 10 to 12. Supplemental Figure 1B shows an example of the flyer presenting costs by treatment, in this case for a specific chemotherapy regimen. Costs on average ranged from about $2,000 for chemotherapy only, to about $4,000 for all the care received during the chemotherapy treatment period. We developed similar flyers for radiation treatment and for surgery.

Overall, the majority of cancer survivors agreed that the information provided was not too much or confusing, and that the information would have been helpful in planning for the costs of cancer treatment.

Supplemental Figure 1: Draft examples of flyers evaluated by participants in this study. (Flyers are still in development and not to be used without permission)

II. INTERVIEW GUIDES FOR CANCER SURVIVORS: FIRST VERSION

During the interview, survivors were asked to review one flyer, and answer the structured part of the interview that contained the following scales and questions.

**Part 1:** I am going to give you a flyer that provides some information about the cost of cancer. Please take a few moments to review the flyer, and then use the information on the flyer to answer the following questions. Respondents completed four comprehension true/false questions (e.g., Women can expect to pay more for medical care in the 0-3 months after diagnosis than in the 10-12 months), and a 13-item questionnaire on flyer usability and appeal (e.g., The layout is cluttered and difficult to follow, The print is large and clear enough to read, The information would have been helpful to me in planning for the costs of cancer treatment).

**Part 2:** You have reviewed the cost information flyer, and answered some questions about how easy it is to use and if it appeals to you. Now we are going to discuss the feedback you gave.
1. In your opinion, tell me what this flyer explains.
2. Please give me your initial impressions about the layout of this page. What do you think of the colors, graphics, etc.?
3. What parts were difficult to understand on this flyer? What words or sentences are not easily understood?
   Was anything confusing or offensive?
4. Which parts of the flyer did you really like?
5. Which parts of the flyer do you not like?

**Part 3:** You reviewed one version of the cost information flyer, and answered several questions about it. Now, I would like to ask you some questions about a different version of the flyer.
1. What do you think about this version?
2. Which Cost Information Flyer do you prefer, A the one you were initially shown, or B the one I just showed you?
3. Please tell me why you prefer [FILL] version over the other.

**Part 4:** For the last part of our interview today, please think back about the time of your diagnosis and treatment and if you had this flyer at that time.
1. What other information do you think should go in this flyer? What would you add that may be useful to women going through treatment?
2. If you had this information on costs of cancer before you started treatment, how would it have been useful?
3. Thinking back at your experience from diagnosis, if this information were available, when would you have wanted to see it? Did anyone talk to you about your breast cancer costs?
4. Thinking about your medical and support team at the hospital...who would you want to sit down with you to discuss information about the cost of your cancer?
   a. What are some of the reasons you would want [FILL PERSON] to talk about costs with you?
   b. Ideally, how would you have liked for that cost conversation to go? (Probes included: how would you like that person to introduce the topic? what kinds of things would you like to hear or not to hear?)
   c. How do you think a conversation like that would impact your relationship with that person?
   d. How would it impact the relationship with your medical team?
   e. Oftentimes, others are involved in your cancer care, for example a spouse, or relative...Who do you think should have that cost conversation and receive this information?
5. Is there anything else you would like to add to what we discussed?

*Thank you so much for all your input. That concludes our interview*
III. INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR SURVIVORS: SECOND VERSION
The interview guide was revised after a first set of 24 interviews and after revision of the first flyers that were developed. Survivors still reviewed one flyer to begin with and Part 1 of the interview remained the same as in the first interview guide. The rest was modified as follows:

**Part 2: For this part of our interview, please think back about the time of your diagnosis and treatment...**
1. At the time of your diagnosis and treatment, what was your expectation on your out of pocket costs (costs to you) for your cancer treatment [chemo/radiation/surgery]?
   i. Did you worry about what the costs may be?
   ii. What conversations did you have (e.g. with your family, medical team) at any time, about breast cancer costs?
2. Please tell me what you have learned about cancer costs from this flyer.
3. Now imagine that at some point somebody presented this flyer to you. Please tell me specifically, how the information in this flyer would or wouldn’t have been useful to you?
   i. What do you think about the fact that the flyer includes information on all medical care, and not only cancer care?
   ii. How do you feel about the information on the group of patients with higher costs?

**Part 3: This other flyer presents cost information in a different way.**
1. What do you think about this version that shows you cost by [FILL IN DESCRIPTION]
2. These two flyers present the cost information in different ways; between these two, which way do you prefer? Please explain why.

**Part 4:**
1. What other information do you think should go in this flyer?
2. What would you add that would have been useful to you or would be useful to women going through treatment?
3. Thinking about your medical and support team, who would you want to sit down with you to discuss information about the cost of your cancer?
   a. What are some of the reasons you would want [FILL PERSON] to talk about costs with you?
   b. Ideally, how would you like that cost conversation to go?
      i. Probe: How would you like that person to introduce the topic?
      ii. Probe: What kinds of things would you like to hear or not to hear?
   c. Oftentimes, others are involved in your cancer care, for example a spouse, or relative; who do you think should have that cost conversation and receive this information?
4. Is there anything else you would like to add to what we discussed?

Thank you so much for all your input. That concludes our interview
**IV. INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR CANCER CENTER STAFF**

In these interviews, doctors and nurses reviewed one flyer with information summarized by time period and one with information summarized by treatment depending on their specialty (i.e., radiation oncologists reviewed the flyers containing information on costs of radiation treatment). Social workers, patient navigators, and billing specialists reviewed one time-format flyer and one treatment-format flyer picked at random.

*Thank you for taking the time to talk with me today. The purpose of this interview is to discuss some materials we are developing to talk with patients about the cost of cancer care. We are currently testing them with survivors and we would also like the opinion of providers to discuss if/how they can be used with patients*

1. Please take a few minutes to look at these but think aloud as you do. Just tell me anything that comes to mind.
2. Imagine you are discussing a treatment plan with a patient [whether is defined by you or others]. How would you use one or more of these flyers?
   1. IF PARTICIPANTS STATE THEY WOULD NOT USE ANY:
      i. Please explain why you would not use these.
      ii. If you can imagine a conversation about costs, how would it go? What would be the essential elements/components of that conversation?
      iii. What would these flyers need to be useful in that context?
   2. IF PARTICIPANTS STATE THEY WOULD USE ONE OR MORE OF THE FLYERS
      i. Which flyer/s would you use? Why?
      ii. Please explain how you would use it/these.
         1. If you can imagine that conversation, how would it go? What would be the essential elements/components of that conversation?
      iii. What would you add or take away from the flyer?
      iv. When would you have this conversation?
   3. Is there anything else you would like to add to what we discussed?

*Thank you so much for all your input. That concludes our interview*