

Economic evaluation of cancer medicines usage at Uganda cancer Institute

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Background

- The cost of cancer care is high and this cost does not only fall on government, but also on individuals, families and Health insurance agencies.
- Cancer medicines in Uganda are paid for by government, out-of-pocket and donations.
- The medicine cost is not known.

Objectives

- To determine the cost of medicines provided for by government.
- To determine out-of-pocket costs.
- To estimate the proportions of costs of government, out-of-pocket and donations.

Methods

- The study was cross-sectional study.
- The participants were randomly selected by taking the 6th patient in order of arrival at the pharmacy.
- 25 patients were enrolled on a daily basis, and 385 participants were enrolled in the study.

Results & Discussion

Cost and proportions of medicines. Donations costs were higher than government and out-of-pocket.

See figures 1 & 2 below. The cost are in Uganda shillings

Figure 1: The cost of medicines in the three categories

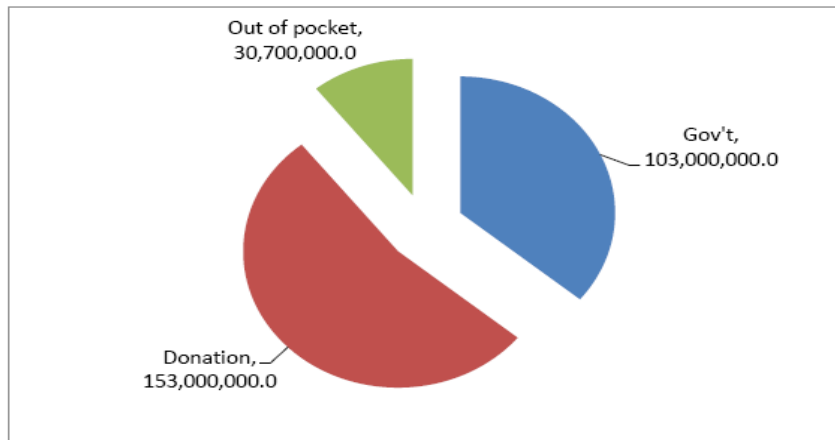


Figure 2: Percentage Ratio of spending

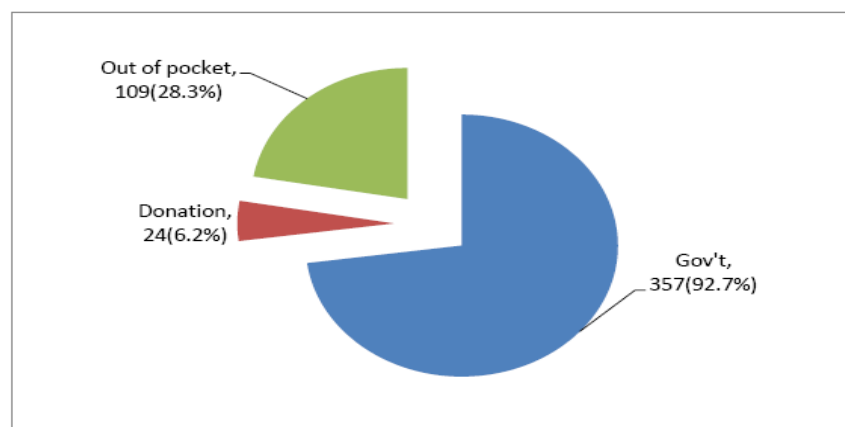


Table 1: list of medicines prescribed and their percentages

Drug Name	Frequency	Percent
VINCRIStINE	101	26.2
DOXORUBICIN	84	21.8
CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE	74	19.2
PAMIDRONATE	59	15.3
BLEOMYCIN	53	13.8
PACLITAXEL	48	12.5
5-FLUOROURACIL	41	10.7
PREDNISOLONE	35	9.1
ZOLADEx	32	8.3
METHOTREXATE	25	6.5
CISPLATIN	20	5.2
DACARBAZINE	20	5.2
GEMCITABINE	20	5.2
GLIVEC	18	4.7
TAMOXIFEN	17	4.4
OXALIPLATIN	16	4.2
6-MERCAPTOPYRINE	12	3.1
CARBOPLATIN	12	3.1
THALIDOMIDE	12	3.1
BICALUTAMIDE	11	2.9
DOCETAXEL	11	2.9
LEUPRORIDE	11	2.9
DEXAMETHASONE	9	2.3
ETOPOSIDE	9	2.3
MELPHALAN	8	2.1
ANASTROZOLE	7	1.8
CALCIUM FOLINATE	6	1.6
CYTARABINE	6	1.6
DACTINOMYCIN	6	1.6
VINBLASTINE	6	1.6
CHLORAMBUCIL	5	1.3
LEUCOVORIN	5	1.3
MAGNESIUM SULPHATE	5	1.3
CAPECITABINE	4	1.0
L-ASPARAGINASE	4	1.0
BORTEZOMIB	2	0.5
IFOSFAMIDE	2	0.5
MESNA	2	0.5
PROCARBAZINE	2	0.5
TRANSTUZUMAB	2	0.5
DIETHYLSTEROBESTOL	1	0.3
ERLOTINIB	1	0.3
FOLINIC ACID	1	0.3
IRINOTECAN	1	0.3
PEGILATED	1	0.3
RITUXIMAB	1	0.3

Conclusion

- Cost of medicines by government was determined with a proportion of 92.7%.
- Out of pocket cost was 28.3% .
- Donation was 6.2% .
- Government medicines serves more patients than those who buy and receive donation.

References

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