



## Cancer Resource Services

# Deliver better outcomes at reduced costs

Cancer is the second most common cause of death in the United States, exceeded only by heart disease, according to the 2021 American Cancer Society facts and figures.

Cancer Resource Services is designed to deliver better outcomes at reduced costs by providing access to a national network of quality cancer centers. The program focuses on rare and complex cancers for which practice variability and expenses tend to be high. However, the program may be used for any type of cancer care.

### Cancer Resource Services

Provides personalized support and resources:

- Helps guide members to local community providers as appropriate
- Connects members to travel and lodging, if applicable
- Enables access to a nurse who provides education and support during the initial phase of diagnosis and treatment, including treatment decision options



### The financial cost of cancer

The National Cancer Institute estimates that cancer-related direct medical costs in the U.S. were **\$183 billion** in 2015 and are projected to increase to **\$246 billion** by 2030.<sup>1</sup>

## Access to leading care

Cancer Resource Services provides access to top-performing cancer centers across the country. The Cancer Centers of Excellence (COE) Network comprises 39 leading cancer centers, each meeting strict evaluation criteria based on the following:

- Multidisciplinary approach to care
- Program depth and breadth
- Best-practice medicine
- Patient- and family-oriented programs and services
- Patient volumes
- Treatment planning and coordination
- Clinical research
- Patient safety

While the Cancer COE Network is intended to complement local hospital and physician care, treatment at a COE may be the best option, even if it is far from home. Potential benefits include:

- Higher rates of accurate diagnoses and appropriate therapy
- Fewer complications
- Planned and coordinated care provided by a team of experts who specialize in the many types of cancer, including rare cancers
- Higher survival rates, shorter stays and decreased costs
- Expanded treatment options

## Value-based care designed to deliver positive outcomes at a reduced cost

Program nurses provide information and support to members to help them make the best decisions regarding their cancer care and treatment. Approximately one-third of all new diagnoses are considered uncommon or complex, which can result in tens of thousands of dollars in treatment costs. We deliver value by helping to control these costs through:

- On average, 25%–42% financial savings for inpatient, outpatient and physician services<sup>2</sup>
- Lowering case costs through shorter hospital stays and reducing unnecessary and inappropriate treatment



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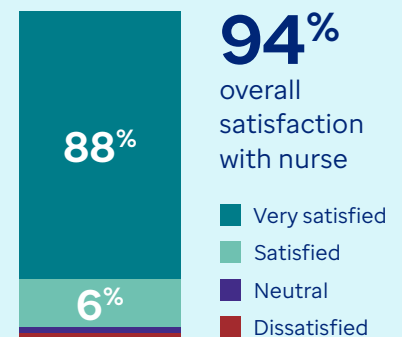
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**25–42%**  
Savings through a COE<sup>2</sup>



### Patient satisfaction<sup>3</sup>:



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2. Optum internal analytics, 2015.
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