Payment Assistance for Under Insured Patients Patient Access Network Foundation

By: Emily Acland

The Patient Access Network (PAN) Foundation offers financial assistance to patients who lack full insurance coverage, allowing access to treatments that were previously out of reach. Founded in 2004, PAN is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to providing financial assistance to underinsured patients. The PAN Foundation has provided more than 200,000 grants and contributed more than \$350 million in much-needed financial assistance.

In 2012, PAN started a major push to raise funds to give castrate-resistant patients access to necessary treatment. When first opened, the Foundation's Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC) program enrolled more than 600 patients in 5 weeks, demonstrating a demand far beyond our expectations and fundraising capacities. As of September, 2013, nearly 2,500 men have enrolled in the CRPC program alone. As such we allocated more than \$22 million in financial assistance for specialty medications. The availability of funds depends solely upon gifts from donors – both individual, and corporate. Available funds are our mission and goal, but can never be guaranteed. PAN now has 4 distinct co-pay assistance programs and one, first-of-its-kind, travel assistance program.

Current Co-Pay Programs Include:

- Androgen Receptor Inhibitor Treatments for Advanced Prostate Cancer
- Immunotherapy Treatments for Genitourinary Cancers
- Metastatic Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer (covering all treatment types) now in partnership with ZERO - The End of Prostate Cancer
- Radioisotope Treatments for Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer

For specifics about which treatments fall into which category, call PAN at 866-316-PANF (7263).

Applying for PAN Assistance:

- Patients or Caregivers: Apply online at www.PANfoundation.org or call 866-316-PANF (7263).
- Health Care Provider or Office Representative: Apply online at www.PANfoundation.org or call 866-316-PANF (7263) or visit PAN's online Provider Portal to easily manage multiple patient grants within your office by visiting providerportal.panfoundation.org.
- Specialty Pharmacy: Register and apply on patients' behalf by visiting pharmacyportal.panfoundation. org.

Who Can Receive PAN Assistance, And How Much Assistance Will They Get?

In order to best suit the needs of specific patient populations, PAN assistance varies by program. All programs abide by the following eligibility guidelines:

- Patient must be diagnosed with the disease which is covered by the program for which they are applying.
- Patient must have insurance that covers the medication for which they are seeking assistance. Note: For the program titled "Metastatic Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer", patients must have Medicare insurance.

- Patient must reside and receive treatment in the United States.
- Patient's household income must fall at or below a certain percentage of the Federal Poverty Level.

Note: For all advanced prostate cancer programs, this percentage is 500% (below \$77,550 for a family of two).

PAN grants are awarded on a 12-month basis, but also include a 90-day "look back" period which allows patients to be reimbursed for costs incurred up to 3 months prior to enrollment in PAN assistance. In some cases, patients may apply for a second grant during the same 12-month eligibility cycle if their initial grant amount was not sufficient in covering their out-of-pocket medication costs.

Initial grant amounts for advanced prostate cancer patients are as follows:

- Androgen Receptor Inhibitor Treatments for Advanced Prostate Cancer \$7,500
- Immunotherapy Treatments for Genitourinary Cancers \$10,000
- Metastatic Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer now in partnership with ZERO the End of Prostate Cancer - \$7,500
- Radioisotope Treatments for Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer \$10,000

Additional program information can be found on www.PANfoundation.org.

PAN Travel Assistance Services:

PAN offers travel assistance for patients seeking treatment for Metastatic Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer. Our Travel Assistance Program covers approved transportation, lodging, and ancillary travel expenses. Patients do not need to be insured to qualify for travel assistance and can receive up to \$2,500 per year through the program. Patients can even enroll in PAN's Travel Assistance Program while enrolled in a copay assistance program, however participation in a co-pay assistance program is not required. To apply, call 866-316-PANF (7263) and select option 6.

PAN runs solely on the generosity of our donors, who make it possible for us to change the lives of so many patients. We are grateful to the foundations, corporations, and individuals who help make it possible for patients to afford the potentially life-saving medications they otherwise would have gone without. To become a source of help and hope for patients in need, visit www.panfoundation.org/ways-to-give.

