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TABLE

Cost of Selected Drugs Used in Cancer Therapy^a

Generic drug name (trade name; manufacturer, location)	Cancer	Typical treatment schedule	Cumulative drug cost for 1 y (\$)	Comments
Ipilimumab (Yervoy; Bristol-Myers Squibb, New York, NY)	Melanoma	Once every 3 wk for 4 doses	120,000	Duration not well defined; currently, physicians have been going past the 4 doses if patients have achieved a good response
Sipuleucel-T (Provenge; Dendreon Corp, Seattle, WA)	Prostate cancer	Three doses over 1 mo	90,000 for 3 doses	
Bevacizumab (Avastin; Genentech Inc, South San Francisco, CA)	Various cancers, including lung and colon cancer	Once every 3-4 wk	90,000	Can be continued >1 y until disease progression
Paclitaxel, protein-bound (Abraxane; Celgene Corp, Summit, NJ)	Breast cancer	Three times a month	80,000	Continued until disease progression
Lenalidomide (Revlimid; Celgene Corp)	Multiple myeloma	Daily for 3 wk of each	90,000	In frontline and maintenance, duration of therapy can exceed 3 y; in relapsed disease, duration is

		month		approximately 1 y
Bortezomib (Velcade; Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Cambridge, MA)	Multiple myeloma	Once weekly	60,000	Can be continued >1 y until disease progression
Imatinib mesylate (Gleevec; Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp, East Hanover, NJ)	Chronic myeloid leukemia	Once daily	70,000	Lifelong until progression
Alemtuzumab (Campath; Genzyme Corp, Cambridge, MA)	Chronic leukemias	Three times a week for 3 mo	70,000	Could be used for >1 y
Ofatumumab (Arzerra; GlaxoSmithKline, Philadelphia, PA)	Lymphomas and chronic lymphoid leukemias	Twelve doses over 3-4 mo	120,000	Could be used for >1 y
Brentuximab vedotin (Adcetris; Seattle Genetics Inc, Bothell, WA)	Hodgkin lymphoma	Once every 21 d for 8 cycles	100,000	Approximately 6-8 cycles in a year
Dasatinib (Sprycel; Bristol-Myers Squibb)	Chronic myeloid leukemia	Once daily	110,000	Lifelong until progression

^aThe costs listed are approximate estimates based on average wholesale prices and typical schedules used in practice. Costs are higher when the cost of administration is factored in and when 2 or more drugs are used in combination.