

Oncology Programme

Discovering that you have cancer may leave you feeling anxious, overwhelmed and unsure of what to expect. According to the Cancer Association of South Africa (CANSA), one out of four people will be affected by cancer, either directly or indirectly through the diagnosis of a loved one. Registering on the Oncology Programme is a powerful tool to support you and your loved ones on this journey.

We care about your health and wellbeing, which is why the Scheme offers all members diagnosed with cancer access to the Oncology Programme.

Your Scheme benefits

You shouldn't have to worry about treatment costs during this difficult time. The Scheme offers cancer treatment benefits with specific terms and conditions. Registering on this programme will help guide you in understanding the benefits available to you for your specific cancer diagnosis. Scheme benefit limits apply, and co-payments may apply.

Programme benefits

Our programme is designed to empower patients, their families and caregivers. Through this interaction, participants usually develop a more positive outlook towards their condition and wellness, leading to better treatment compliance and a healthier lifestyle.

You will receive direct access to a **specialised oncology care coach**, who will assist you with the following:

- Work closely with you, your doctor and oncologist to ensure your care is co-ordinated and you receive maximum value from your Scheme benefits.
- Pre-authorise your oncology treatment and, where appropriate, may consult an oncology medical advisor for evaluation.
- Draw on the support of a specialised clinical team, where necessary, which includes independent advisors and experts from the industry.
- Work with all healthcare providers involved in your treatment, ensuring your care is co-ordinated, hassle-free and aimed at achieving the best possible health outcomes.
- Provide counselling and refer you and your loved ones to appropriate support groups.
- Encourage you to follow a healthy lifestyle, which will not only help you cope better but also raise your energy levels.
- Assess your medication to ensure that it will be covered by the Scheme and guide you on the way forward if it is not.



If you think you are at risk of having HIV or have already been diagnosed, please contact the YourLife Programme on **0860 767 633** or by email at yourlife@pnpm.co.za. All correspondence is confidential.

Easy-to-follow enrolment process

Step 1

Diagnosis submission by your doctor

Once you have been diagnosed with cancer, your doctor will need to submit a report confirming the diagnosis (either histology or radiology report) to oncology@pnpms.co.za.

Step 2

Your oncologist submits your treatment plan for approval

If your oncologist prescribes treatment, a treatment plan or prescription must be submitted to the Scheme for approval before starting treatment.

Step 3

Treatment plan assessment

Your oncology care coach will assess the treatment plan according to clinical guidelines. The treatment plan will then be:

- **approved**, if it is within South African oncology guidelines and benefits are available; or
- **referred** to the oncology medical advisor for further assessment if the requested treatment is not within South African oncology guidelines; or
- **declined**, due to the standard treatment protocol not being met, or Scheme benefits being depleted.

Step 4

Possible referral to external experts

In some instances, it may be necessary to refer the treatment plan to an external oncology expert panel for an opinion before a funding decision is made.

Step 5

If a treatment plan is declined

Where a treatment plan is declined, it's usually because the standard treatment protocol has not been met. Your doctor may then submit a revised treatment plan for approval.

Step 6

Once treatment is approved

Once the treatment plan is approved, the specialised care coach will inform your doctor. All your oncology-related consultations, treatment, chemotherapy, and medication will then be paid from the Scheme's oncology benefit, according to Scheme rules.



Putting the power in your hands

It's completely normal for you to feel anxious, depressed and overwhelmed when diagnosed with cancer. However, in order to cope with everyday living, it's important to learn as much as possible about your type of cancer and its treatment. This will give you the emotional energy and confidence to manage your condition and improve your health.

Visit www.pnpms.co.za for more information and cancer-related educational content. Here you will also find additional Oncology disease leaflets, created to support you throughout your treatment journey.

Protection of Personal Information

Pick n Pay Medical Scheme and Momentum Health (Pty) Ltd, the Administrator, will maintain the confidentiality of your personal information and comply with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013 (POPIA) and all existing data protection legislation, when collecting, processing and storing your personal information for the purposes of registration on the Oncology Programme.

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Medical scheme

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