

Poor, non-English speaking cancer patients need support

September 5 2018



(HealthDay)—There are steps health care providers can take to better

support cancer patients who do not speak English, are underinsured, and may face other major financial challenges, according to an article published in *Managed Healthcare Executive*.

In the article, Aditi Shastri, M.D., an oncologist who specializes in treating blood-related cancers at Montefiore Medical Center in Bronx, N.Y., says that an estimated 80 percent of patients at the medical center are minorities, mostly African-American, Afro-Caribbean, and Hispanic. The medical center's service area also has a 28.7 percent poverty rate.

Shastri says Montefiore Medical Center is serving these patients' specific needs by providing consent forms in patients' [native languages](#), connecting patients with socioeconomic support, and working with legal resources to secure insurance coverage.

Additionally, Shastri says that creating and sustaining a workforce that reflects the patient population treated at a specific hospital can improve [patient engagement](#).

More information: [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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Citation: Poor, non-English speaking cancer patients need support (2018, September 5) retrieved 23 June 2024 from

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