**Clinician Follow Up Reference for Supportive Care**  
**Practical Concerns – “YES” to Issues paying for housing**

### Approach

**Tell me more about where you are currently living so that I can better understand how we might be able to help you.**

- Determine if the patient or family is homeless or experiencing chronic housing instability.
- Or determine if patient has resolved homeless in the past and if this experience could be repeated.

**See Notes section below.**

**How would you feel about sharing this concern with your family, friends, community groups or your spiritual community?**

### Next Step

**Refer to financial specific social worker/counselor if available. Or, social worker, patient advocate, case manager, or patient navigator.**

- Have a discussion/share options with the patient.
  - If the patient and/or family is homeless, assist with housing arrangements.
  - See/Share “Patient Links and Handouts” section below for guidance, if needed
  - Provide list of resources to the patient. If possible and wanted, help connect patient with the resource(s)

### Timing

- **Discuss same day if possible**
- **Acute – within 24 hours if interfering with care.**
- **Routine - within 1 week if not interfering with care.**

### Notes

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children “individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.”

- Patient Links and Handouts have information and resources for a variety of housing or homelessness issues and can be used for guidance. Share with patients directly who have the ability to utilize. Assist patients as much as possible.
- Patients on Medicaid and have a need for skilled care can be “housed” at a nursing home under what is called the 'custodial care'. State Medical Assistance office is the best source for information about if patient qualifies for long-term care services.
- Patients on the brink of defaulting on a mortgage or eviction should speak with a lawyer to understand their options and hopefully be able to get a new payment plan that they can afford: [http://www.lcbh.org/](http://www.lcbh.org/) and [https://www.ihda.org/my-community/foreclosure-programs/](https://www.ihda.org/my-community/foreclosure-programs/)
- Social Security Disability may be of assistance, see link to Social Security Disability below.

### Patient Links and Handouts:

- [American Cancer Society, Financials and Insurance Matters](https://www.cancer.org)
- [Social Security Disability Benefits](https://www.ssa.gov)
- [Livestrong, Free Personalized Cancer Support](https://www.livestrong.com)
- [Illinois Medical District Guest House](http://www.imd.org)
- [Joe's House, Lodging Guide for Cancer Patients](http://www.joeshouse.org)
- [The Boulevard, Medical Respite for Chicago homeless](http://www.theboulevard.net)
- [Cancercare Financial Assistance Program](http://www.cancercare.org)
- [Illinois Department of Human Services](http://www2.dhs.state.il.us)
- [The Catholic Charities, Housing Services](http://www.catholiccharities.org)
- [All Chicago, making homelessness history](http://www.allchicago.org)
- [City of Chicago Rental Assistance Program](http://www.chicago.gov)
- [Thresholds, for pts with co-occurring mental illness](http://www.thresholds.org)

**CSOC Patient Handout can be accessed at:** [http://cancer-help.me/housing](http://cancer-help.me/housing)

### References for More Detailed Information, Appropriate for Staff to Review:

- [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](https://www.hud.gov)
- [National Coalition for the Homeless](https://nch.org)
- [Illinois Department of Human Services](http://www2.dhs.state.il.us)
- [National Alliance to End Homelessness](https://www.naeh.org)

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