

Coleman County



Access to Cancer Care

For Low-Income and Uninsured Patients

We hope this information is helpful if you are looking for cancer treatment or cancer screening, like a mammogram, Pap test, or prostate exam, and do not have insurance or enough money to pay for medical care.

<i>I want to be checked for cancer. Where do I go?</i>	<i>Page 1</i>
<i>I have cancer. Where do I go?</i>	<i>Page 4</i>
<i>I had cancer and need a check-up. Where do I go?</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>How do I know if I can get help for cancer care?</i>	<i>Page 8</i>
<i>What if I still cannot get help for cancer care?</i>	<i>Page 10</i>
<i>Where can I learn more about cancer care?</i>	<i>Page 11</i>

I want to be checked for cancer. Where do I go?

If you want to be checked for cancer and:

- You live in Coleman County
- You make a low income
- You do not have health insurance
- You cannot get Medicare or Medicaid

You may be able to get help through one of the programs listed below. Each one may have different rules about how you qualify for services, so call the number listed for more information.

★ Coleman County Indigent Health Care Program

If you live in Coleman County you may be able to get help through the **Coleman County Indigent Health Care Program**. You will need to fill out a form and show certain documents, such as a water bill, your mortgage or rent papers, or your driver's license to prove that you live in Coleman County.

You do not have to be a U.S. citizen to get help. But if you have any documents (like visas) from Immigration and Naturalization Services (INS), you must show these. You will also need to tell how many family members live in your house. You will have to show how much money you make, so you also may need to show a paycheck stub.

For more information, call the number or go by the office listed below:

<p>Coleman County Medical Center 310 S Pecos Coleman, TX 76834 (325) 625- 2135</p>

★ **Cancer Services Network**

Cancer Services Network (CSN) provides financial and emotional support to under-served cancer patients. Programs that CSN includes are:

- Financial help to buy cancer medications or other cancer related needs. Emergency assistance is also given on a case by case basis
- Any kind of cancer related supplies you may need
- Travel repayment based on how far you go to be treated
- Pain management class

Patients are referred by physicians or social workers, and then CSN caseworkers look at individual and family needs on a case by case basis. Distributions are based on income and family size.

Call the number below to see if you qualify:

<p>Cancer Services Network 100 Chestnut, Ste 100 Abilene, TX 79604 (325) 672-0040</p>
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★ Federally Qualified Health Centers

If you cannot get help from the Indigent Health Care Program, you may be able to see a doctor at a primary care clinic that will let you pay on a “**sliding scale.**” This means that the amount of money you pay is based on how many family members live in your house and how much money you make. For example, if you have a big family and make just a little money, you would pay less for medical care. If you have a smaller family or make a little more money, you would pay a little more.

For more information and to find the nearest clinic, call the numbers below:

Cross Plains Community Health Center 200 N. Main St. Cross Plains, TX 76443 (254) 725-4311	Cross Timbers Brownwood Site 104 S. Park Dr. Brownwood, TX 76801 (325) 643-5167
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For U. S. Military Veterans

★ If you are a **veteran**, you may be able to be seen at a **Veterans Affairs (VA) clinic**. To find out more about veteran’s benefits, go to <http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/>. For more information, contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at the number below:

Veterans Affairs
Health care questions call 1-877-222-8387

You may also call or visit one of the following VA facilities in or near **Coleman County**:

Brownwood CBOC
2600 Memorial Park Dr.
Brownwood, TX 76801
(325) 641- 0568

Abilene Clinic
4225 Woods Place
Abilene, TX 79602
(325) 695- 3252

For Women

★ Alliance for Women and Children

Alliance for Women and Children provides **clinical breast exams, mammograms** (breast cancer test) and **cervical screening** through clinics to women who do not have insurance, Medicare or Medicaid or any other means to pay for her services. Eligibility is based on women who are at 200% below the Federal Poverty guidelines.

- To have a mammogram or clinical breast exam you must be 18 to 64 years old, not have insurance, Medicare or Medicaid or possibly have a suspicious finding.
- To have a cervical screening you must be 18 to 64 years old, not had a pap test within the last five years, have never had a pap test or your last test was abnormal.

Call the clinic below for more information or to make an appointment:

<p>Alliance for Women and Children 1350 N 10th St Abilene, TX 79601-4140 (325) 677- 5321</p>

Appointments

When you go for your appointment, be sure to bring any medical records you have. This information will help the doctor understand your needs better. For example, bring:

- Results of past medical or lab tests
- Records of any treatments you have had
- A list of any medicines you are taking right now

I have cancer. Where do I go?

If you have been told that you need treatment for cancer and:

- You live in Coleman County
- You make a low income
- You do not have health insurance
- You cannot get Medicare or Medicaid

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- A list of any medicines you are taking right now

I had cancer and need a check-up. Where do I go?

If you have had cancer in the past and need to see a doctor for a check-up and:

- You live in Coleman County
- You make a low income
- You do not have health insurance
- You cannot get Medicare or Medicaid

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What if I still cannot get help for cancer care?

If you cannot get help from the county program or a Federally Qualified Health Center, you may want to call one of the hospitals below.

★The National Cancer Institute (NCI) has named four cancer centers in Texas as leaders in cancer research. Two centers are in Houston, one is in Dallas and one is in San Antonio. These centers focus on finding new treatments for cancer through clinical trial testing. To find out more, visit the Web sites or call the numbers below:

Cancer Therapy & Research Center at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio
1-800-340-2872
<http://www.uthscsa.edu/patient.shtml>

The Dan L. Duncan Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine
(713) 798-1354
<http://www.bcm.edu/cancercenter/>

Harold C. Simmons Cancer Center at UT Southwestern Medical Center
(214) 645-HOPE (4673)
(800) 460-HOPE (4673)
<http://www.simmonscancercenter.org/index.html>

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
1-877-MDA-6789 (1-877-632-6789)
http://www.mdanderson.org/contact_us/

- ★ The following hospitals in your area may also treat low-income or uninsured patients. You would need to contact each hospital to find out if you can make an appointment to be seen:

Coleman County Medical Center
(325) 625- 2135

Where can I learn more about cancer care?

There are many groups that help cancer patients. These groups may offer financial assistance, support services or free information about cancer. You can get a list of these groups from the **National Cancer Institute** by clicking on or typing in the following link:

<https://cissecure.nci.nih.gov/factsheet/FactsheetSearch.aspx?FSType=8.1>

- ★ You may also call the **National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service** at **1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237)**.
- ★ The **American Cancer Society (ACS)** also has support groups and information about cancer. You may call **1-800-227-2345** or go to the Web site: <http://www.cancer.org/docroot/home/index.asp>.
- ★ The **Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF)** has information about financial assistance and support groups. Call **1-866-235-7205** or visit the Web site: <http://www.livestrong.org>
- ★ **Susan G. Komen for the Cure** is a breast cancer helpline. Call 1-800-462-9273 (1-800-I'M AWARE®) or visit the Web site: <http://www.komen.org>
- ★ Visit the **Texas Cancer Information (texascancer.info)** Web site at <http://www.texascancer.info/> for lists of doctors, hospitals, breast and colon cancer screening services, home health agencies, and hospices. You can find support, counseling, education and other help such as transportation, housing and medical equipment by clicking on **Local/Community Resources**.



This document can be found in PDF format on the Texas Cancer Information Web site at http://www.texascancer.info/access/access_coleman.pdf.

If you have any information regarding changes to any procedures or locations, please e-mail Texas Cancer Information at info@texascancer.info. Texas Cancer Information is funded by the [Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas](#) and [The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center](#). Inclusion in this document is not intended as an endorsement of any individual, provider, service or Web site.