

iHuman Reflection
NR 601: Primary Care of the Maturing and Aged
Family Week 3

Both the diagnostic testing and treatments available for this client's diagnosis can be very expensive. How would your treatment plan change if your client did not have insurance? What resources are available in your area to support a client with these diagnostic and treatment needs?

Unfortunately, more than 78 million Americans do not have adequate health insurance (Galvani, A. et al., 2020). This is a huge problem as we as healthcare providers must try to alter our treatment plans for those who do not have insurance. Often times, however, our treatment plan is the best one for the patient and their disease.

That being said, my treatment plan would stay generally the same even if my client did not have insurance, because it is still the best plan for them. The average cost for 30 tablets of methimazole is somewhere around 25 dollars, but most pharmacies (at least in my area) provide discounts where the client could get it for about 7 or 8 dollars per month. Pharmacies (in my area) also provide discounts for propranolol which would make it approximately the same price per month. Fifteen dollars per month for medications for Grave's Disease seems fairly affordable.

Lab testing can be fairly expensive without insurance, with each lab test for thyroid issues being around fifty dollars. Salina Family Healthcare is a healthcare center in my area (Salina, Kansas) that receives federal money to help certain people receive healthcare at a lower cost. It is not a free clinic, but patients may qualify to pay less for their services. The cost for healthcare depends on how much money the patient makes. For urgent care needs, they will not turn a patient away if they cannot pay (Salina Family Healthcare Center, 2023). Someone in my area could go to Salina Family for healthcare needs and usually receive lab testing and prescriptions at a discounted rate compared to other offices or pharmacies.

References:

Financial assistance - SFHC: Salina Family Healthcare Center. SFHC | Salina Family Healthcare Center. (2023, March 6). <https://salinahealth.org/financial-assistance/>

Galvani, A. P., Parpia, A. S., Foster, E. M., Singer, B. H., & Fitzpatrick, M. C. (2020). Improving the prognosis of health care in the USA. *The Lancet*, 395(10223), 524–533. [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736\(19\)33019-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736(19)33019-3)