Axios in ASIA
Impact Stories
There are currently 4,000+ patients enrolled in Axios-managed patient assistance and support programs across Asia.

These are just some of their stories.

All patient names, medications and program names have been omitted for privacy.
I was happily living life to the maximum - exercising, playing sports, rock climbing, swimming, eating fresh fruits and vegetables. I was taking really good care of my health, and was busy saving money so I could move overseas.

Then in July 2016, I started coughing and had a fever. I went to the doctor who prescribed me medication. Whilst the fever disappeared, the cough remained. My chest was really uncomfortable, and when friends hugged me I would immediately cough. So my doctor recommended a chest x-ray. I was shocked when the x-ray showed that my left lung had a large mass. The doctor explained that the mass could be tuberculosis, a cyst or cancer, and advised a biopsy as soon as possible. My shock did not end there because I was informed of the cost of the treatment - more than THB 60,000! I could not think or plan because I was so confused and shocked at the high cost of treatment. I kept wondering, ‘Where or how can I find this money?’

I decided to go to a government hospital because treatment is cheaper there. The biopsy was done, and I was diagnosed with DLBCL. Shock is the only word to describe how I continued to feel. Thankfully the doctor then recommended an Axios program to me that would help reduce my treatment costs and the huge financial burden that was now on me.

In a matter of days my application form was submitted, program staff were in contact, my interview was completed and thankfully I was enrolled in the program. When I heard this news, I was so very happy to be helped by the program. With this support, I now have hope again.

**Age:** 31 years  
**Gender:** Female  
**Nationality:** Thai  
**Diagnosis:** Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL)  
**Year of Diagnosis:** 2016
When I was four years old, I picked up the polio virus. It was not easy growing up with a handicapped status in an urban district in northern Thailand. But nonetheless I grew up happy, working as a farmer, living with my beloved adopted son, and spending time with my two brothers and three sisters. Then one day, I found myself coughing more and more until I could not sleep at night.

I went to the local doctor and got cough reliever for one month, but there was no improvement. I was then referred to a hospital in the city. Here a chest x-ray showed a tumor in my lung and I was diagnosed with Metastatic Lung Cancer. The treatment plan proposed for me was chemotherapy and a targeted-drug regimen. This sounded great, but how can a farmer with a handicap, no money, nor any insurance afford such a treatment plan?

I began to think about selling my house and my farm, but where would my son and I live then? I also worried that my son would have to drop out of school to take care of me and the farm.

The oncologist in the hospital, then told me about a program that would help support my treatment plan.

I was enrolled and now together the program, my relatives and I are all sharing the cost of my treatment.

I am so thankful that I am receiving this financial support without having to sell my asset or interrupt my son’s education. But I am most grateful that this program is helping me stay with my beloved family for longer.
When I first heard that my father had been diagnosed with Prostate Cancer, I felt like my whole world was tumbling down. I feared he would not have long to live, and to add to my worries my father could not purchase his prescribed medication because he could not afford it. My siblings and I had a family meeting and we agreed that together we would pay for our father’s medication. But when we pooled all our money together, we found that we only had enough for a few bottles of his medication. We were all very dismayed because my father was feeling worse and worse and we needed him to start his treatment plan soon. We began to talk about selling our house and land. But then we would all be homeless! I felt such despair and began to lose hope that my father would get the best medication.

Then during one of my father’s hospital appointments, the doctor told us unbelievably good news about a program that help patients access the medicine my father was prescribed. Together with the doctor, we applied to the program and got accepted. We did an assessment, and now my father receives free-of-charge some of the bottles of medication that we are not able to afford.

My father is now adhering to his treatment plan and his condition is getting much better. We are so grateful and deeply thankful for the support provided by this program.

I cannot imagine what would have happened to our family if there was no program to help us. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!
We are a family of three, who makes our living as merchants. We were living a simple life when my daughter started to feel ill. The illness seemed never ending, and I did not understand what was happening as she was not getting better. We went to many hospitals and physicians and then one day my beautiful daughter was diagnosed with a type of blood cancer. I was heartbroken.

After her diagnosis, we met with a new physician who promised to keep my daughter safe. He told us about a new medication that would help my daughter, but it was costly and had to be imported. I was so relieved to hear of such medicine, but equally worried and anxious at the same time because of our financial situation. I told the doctor that I wanted this medication so badly so I could keep my daughter safe, but how would I afford it? He then told me about an amazing program that could help.

Axios, who runs the program, got in contact and gave me more information. I tried to bargain a price discount, but the staff said no. I had to do the assessment and just see what would happen.

A few days later I got a call saying my daughter was eligible for the program. I was so shocked and greatly surprised when the program staff told me that I was getting more support than I had tried to get when I asked for a price discount. Now it is possible for our family to get our precious daughter the medicine she needs. I am so happy to get this support and I thank the program so much!
Before I got sick, I was a business owner and head of my household. I had a lot of responsibility and was very busy taking good care of my wife, my children and my elderly mother.

Then one day I had a bloody stool and constipation. I was concerned but not overly worried. I went to the hospital and was shocked to hear that I needed surgery. I was then diagnosed with Metastatic Colorectal Cancer. I did not know what to do. All I kept thinking about was ‘Who would take care of my family? What would happen my business and our income?’ I felt alone and scared.

The doctors then told me that I had to stop work to recover. My financial worries started to get bigger and bigger. I needed medication but I could not afford it. I decided to put my family’s needs before my own and not continue treatment. I needed to keep my savings for my children’s education and my family. I could not be selfish and focus on myself, I was responsible for minding my family.

Thankfully a doctor told me about a program to apply to get support for my treatment. I felt the weight of the world lifting off my shoulders.

I felt I finally had a friend in the program. The program staff enrolled me and I received my medication. My CEA level decreased, along with my financial struggles.

Because of the support of the program, I can now again drive and exercise. I am getting my life back. I would like to thank the program for helping not just me, but also my family.
I am a woman who lives a normal, quiet life. One day I started to cough and I went to see my doctor. He gave me medicine and I began to feel better, but my cough never went. After a long diagnosis process, a lab test confirmed that I had cancer in my chest. During all this time, and afterwards, my daughter was my rock. She took me to all of my doctor appointments, and when I would worry about my disease or the cost of my medication she would always say “Mom don’t worry about anything. Just take your medicine on time and take care yourself as the doctor advised. I will take care of the rest”.

I tried my best to relax and but my treatment seemed never ending. I was very concerned about finances. I worried about the financial pressure I was putting on my daughter to buy my treatment. My daughter always insisted, “Don’t worry mom. I will take care of it, and for the rest I got someone’s hand.”

One day my daughter was busy so my son brought me to my doctor instead. I asked the doctor, “how can my daughter afford my medicine for such long time? Who is supporting my daughter and I?” The doctor said many words but all I really remember is the last ones when he told me “You have a sponsor.”

He explained that my daughter applied to a program that is supporting the cost of some of my medicine and she is helping with the cost of the rest of my treatment.

All I could think was “Oh thank you God”. I was so relieved and thankful that someone was supporting my daughter and I. I give a big thanks to my doctor for introducing the program to my daughter.

I am so fortunate and blessed with this program, and also for my daughter who never gave up on finding a way to help and support her mother. I am a normal woman, surrounded by really great people!
Presence in 13 Asian markets through Axios and partner offices:
Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, South Korea, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam

10 years ago, Axios’ novel Patient Financial Eligibility Tool (PFET) was used in Asia for the first time to assess patients’ ability to pay in China, Thailand, Indonesia, Nepal, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines and India.

Today, Axios manages 8 active access programs with 5,000+ patients across the region.
Thank you to all our partners in Asia.

Our partners include:
Boehringer Ingelheim
Janssen
Pfizer
PReMA
Roche
Takeda
and many more.

Thank you also to the 100+ hospitals who work closely with us across the region to distribute medication to enrolled patients in each program.