**AIMS:** The objective of this analysis was to investigate the influence of age and gender on the financial burden of cancer patients, as evaluated by the European Organisation for Research and Treatment (EORTC) QLQ-C30. **METHODS:** In 30 EORTC Randomized Controlled Trials patients completed the EORTC QLQ-C30 at baseline. This includes an item about financial difficulties caused by physical condition or medical treatment, scored from 1 (not at all) to 4 (very much). Clinical data including age (<=60 vs. >60), gender (men vs. women), distant metastasis (no vs. yes), World Health Organization (WHO) performance status (PS) (WHO 0-1 vs. WHO 2-3) and cancer site were incorporated into a model to examine the association of age and gender with financial burden, adjusted for WHO PS, distant metastasis and cancer site. The magnitude of financial burden was calculated by dividing the actual scoring difference by its scale and reported in percentage. **RESULTS:** Data were available for 4,666 male and 2,749 female cancer patients, with 65% older than 60 years. Financial impact of the disease was highly associated with age, with older patients reporting a lower financial burden than younger cancer patients (1.51 vs. 1.28, 7.6%, p=<.0001). Men reported a slightly higher financial burden than females (1.45 vs. 1.42, 0.6%, p=0.006). These gender findings were consistent for both age groups as interaction between age and gender was found not significant (p=0.44). Additionally, low PS was associated (1.42 vs 1.64, 7.3%, p=<.0001) with greater financial burden, but this differed with age (interaction with PS, p=0.005) and gender (interaction p=0.021). **CONCLUSIONS:** Age, gender and performance status are determinants of cancer patients' financial burden. Less financial burden was experienced by older people and women with poor performance status. These findings could be important for supportive care when treating cancer patients, although more work is needed to interpret the size and importance of these differentials.