

Palliative care initiative for Cameroonian women with metastatic breast cancer



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Short description

Plan to establish a holistic palliative care pilot programme for breast cancer patients in Cameroon.

Abstract

We plan to establish a palliative care pilot initiative for Cameroonian women with metastatic breast cancer. Medical facilities in Cameroon necessary for recording cancer cases and the population data for the calculation of rate are scarce or nonexistent. There are only three palliative care units available for the whole country, and 99% of Cameroonian women with breast cancer present with advanced disease and most of them follow traditional healers.

We plan to establish a holistic palliative care pilot programme, establish home visits and perform regular telephone calls to patients. We will introduce collaborations with traditional healers and will initiate training and research on palliative care for breast cancer health professionals. We plan to develop communication strategies for patients and provide them with psychosocial support. We also want to implement strategies for the provision of pain drugs such as morphine which is not currently available.



"The Clinique Médicale Camassistance in Yaounde is pleased to accept this award as it will help us develop a holistic palliative care programme for Cameroonian women with metastatic breast cancer, giving them access to much needed psycho-social support and communication strategies."



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