



EBRU TONTAS

**BA
BOARD MEMBER
KANSERLE DANI DERNEGI
ISTANBUL, TURKEY**

Application Title:

Quality of Life Support for Turkish Advanced Breast Cancer Patients

General Audience Summary:

Our Metastatic breast cancer online and phone support program is one of a kind for women living with metastatic breast disease in Turkey. Our project aims to address the isolation of women diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer and the lack of understanding of the disease in Turkey. To date, there has been no services provided specifically geared towards metastatic patients in Turkey. Our nonprofit is the only organization to publish a booklet and video for metastatic breast cancer patients. The needs of the metastatic patient group differ from the rest of the breast cancer patients of other stages. The side effects of continuous therapy, pre test/score anxieties, life being in limbo and feeling insecure about the future, potential resistance to drugs, lack of social and psychological understanding prevents these patients from living life to the fullest and with the best quality of life. We have surveyed 102 metastatic breast cancer patients recorded in our patient database and asked them to identify the 3 key areas where support is needed. The results of the survey indicate these patients need a separate platform where they can talk to other metastatic breast cancer patients, share support and tips for side effects and reciprocate psychological support. Our project is designed to address these needs by leveraging technology regardless of the patient's location.

Keywords:

Patient Navigation
Voices for Change