

Improved quality of life for metastatic breast cancer patients in Romania



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"The unmet need for support services for patients with advanced breast cancer is huge in Romania. For us, the SPARC grant makes possible the development of these services we wanted to do for a long time but could not secure the financial support from elsewhere. Being a SPARC awardee gives us validation and hope for the future of the metastatic breast cancer patients."



Read more on the SPARC MBC Challenge at uicc.org/SPARC

Short description

Development of standard of care, support services design and information materials to improve the quality of life of metastatic breast cancer patients in Romania.

Abstract

We aim to improve the quality of services provided in oncology wards by the implementation of a standard of care based on specifically identified patient needs and International Guidelines for Advanced Breast Cancer. A needs assessment using a specific qualitative study methodology including a focus group and in-depth interviews will be performed to obtain a better understanding of patient needs and professionals' perspectives regarding information and care. Through meetings with professionals from the oncology hospital, a standard of care specific for metastatic breast cancer patients will be developed, tested and integrated into the medical routine of the Institute's activities. Specific support services will be developed including psycho-oncology counselling, social services, nutrition counselling and support groups as well as specific information materials adapted for metastatic breast cancer patients. A methodology for community mapping for social and other support services for referrals will also be developed. The standard of care, support services design and information materials will be disseminated through both meeting with professionals from oncology wards and also through a website developed within the project.

Focus areas

Patient navigation

Stakeholders

Health care professionals, patients



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