

Metastatic Care: Educational Component

MILC – Médicos e Investigadores en la Lucha contra el Cáncer de Mama



OVERVIEW: Following the roll out of previous MILC initiatives, it was identified that many specific needs of patients with ABC/mBC were not being met. This standardised psychoeducational intervention was developed to assess and improve patient understanding of their disease, allowing them to actively participate in decision-making processes and ultimately improve QoL.



Area of focus:
Educating patients & HCPs about ABC/mBC



Target population:
Mexican women ≥18 years with de novo or recurrent ABC/mBC

Objectives: Improve patient-physician communication, resulting in better patient understanding of their disease. Promote the use of supportive and integrative care services to enhance QoL of patients with ABC/mBC and incorporate the intervention systematically into routine ABC/mBC care in Mexico

Unmet needs addressed:

- Communication challenges between HCPs and patients (difficult finding the balance of honesty & hope)
- Suboptimal patient understanding of their disease stage, treatment goals and prognosis
- No standardised model of care to increase patient knowledge and participation in decision making

Key components:

- Assessment of patient understanding and desire for information on prognosis, followed by education and with an oncologist and psycho-oncologist (with the aid of a specially-designed video). Finally, a repeat of the self-efficacy and knowledge questionnaire to assess learnings

Challenges: Ensuring the initiative was useful for patients, as well as convenient/ helpful for oncologists

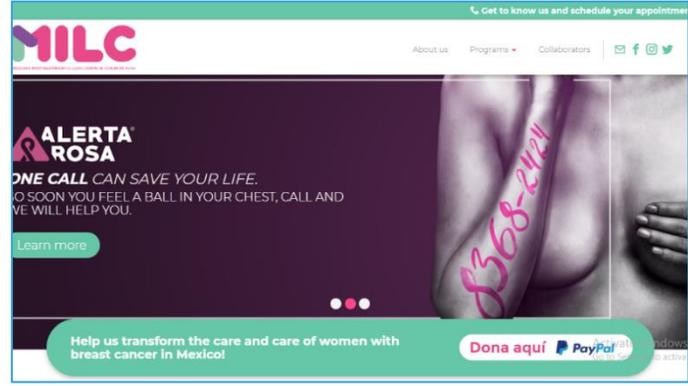
Outcomes: This initiative has reached ~50 patients and resulted in increased awareness of their disease stage, treatment options and objectives, with high levels of patient-reported satisfaction

Development: The initiative was developed by a team of medical oncologists, 2 psycho-oncologists and 2 research assistants, as well as a production team to develop the video

Cost: €10,000–€30,000 (video production funded by SPARC mBC grant and top-up grant)

Timeline: 10 months (2019–2020)

Targeted to reach: 150–300 patients



For more information:
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Based on written submission from Alejandra Platas, MILC, 2020. The Hard-to-Reach ABC/mBC Communities Toolkit was developed as a collaboration between Pfizer Oncology and the ABC Global Alliance, with funding and support provided by Pfizer. ABC Global Alliance members and Pfizer colleagues were invited to submit breast cancer community-based initiatives that address specific needs of underserved patient populations with advanced/metastatic breast cancer. Initiatives were evaluated against criteria determined by a steering committee with members from both Pfizer and the ABC Global Alliance. Initiatives were selected for inclusion in the toolkit to highlight best practices in addressing the unique needs of this patient population. All organizations who submitted their initiatives for consideration have provided permission for the initiative information to be included in the toolkit and shared publicly. Pfizer and the ABC Global Alliance bear no responsibility for the contents of the toolkit.