

## Improving Communication in Cancer

*an ABC Global Alliance, Breast Cancer Network Australia,  
Champalimaud Foundation workshop*

1 October 2018 | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

13:30 - 17:30 | Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The ABC Guidelines highlight the need for sensitive and honest communication with patients and families, and the need for oncology professionals to undergo training in this area. "Breaking bad news" is a regular task for oncologists, and patients may react with a variety of emotional responses, including anxiety, distress, anger and disbelief. Flexibility is required in responding appropriately to these emotions and paving the way for treatment discussions in a collaborative manner.

Using the example of a relapse of breast cancer in a young woman, where optimal therapies are likely to add a financial burden to the bad news, participants in this interactive workshop will view video triggers and interact with a skilled communication training facilitator.

Aims of the workshop are to

- increase skills in identifying emotions in bad news scenarios with patient and partner,
- develop more flexible techniques for informing patients' decision making about therapeutic options
- suggest strategies to assist the oncologist form a more therapeutic relationship.

Building on their understanding of the dynamics of these conversations, advocates will be able to practice their skills to improve communication with decision makers about access to new therapies.

For advocates there will be an opportunity to brainstorm how these conversations might best be undertaken in their cultural context, and to coach the clinicians to improve delivery. Tools to empower women in different environments to ask about new therapies will be discussed.

### PROGRAMME

- 12:30 *Networking lunch*  
13:30 **Optimal management of advanced breast cancer (ABC)** (F. Cardoso, PT)  
14:10 **The ABC Global Alliance** (R. Kaur Pritam Singh, MY)  
14:25 **Communication needs of patients and patient advocates** (D. Spence, AU)  
14:40 *Coffee break*  
15:00 **Breaking and receiving bad news: increasing our bandwidth** (F. Boyle, AU)  
17:30 **Meeting close**

### FACULTY

**F. Boyle**, The Pam McLean Centre, St Leonards, AU

**F. Cardoso**, Champalimaud Clinical Center, Lisbon, PT

**R. Kaur Pritam Singh**, Breast Cancer Welfare Association Malaysia (BCWA), Petaling Jaya, MY

**D. Spence**, Breast Cancer Network Australia, Camberwell, AU

For further information and registration visit [www.abcglobalalliance.org](http://www.abcglobalalliance.org) or contact:

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The event will be held during



**World Cancer Congress**  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
1–4 Oct 2018

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