

## ABC Global Alliance Communication session at

9 November 2021, 8:45-9:45 CET (9:45-10:45 GMT+2)

Chair: Fran Boyle, AU

### Background information

The information and support needs of patients with advanced cancer are considerable and help with these have, in the past, been neglected compared with the many resources available to those with early-stage disease. Many clinical teams and charities do now produce some very helpful leaflets, on-line materials, chat lines and patient forums. It is reasonable to ask if these do address the areas of most concern to patients.

One might assume that patient advocates and others represent a group with have good access to most of the available resources and an acute awareness of the many issues pertinent to individuals with advanced cancer. However considerable gaps still exist in terms of information about the disease and treatment options and the ways in which healthcare professionals and informal carers may either help or hinder the physical, functional, social and emotional well-being of those living with metastatic cancer in Africa.

This session organized by the ABC Global Alliance will explore the gaps in communication and how these affect patients, with a specific focus on advanced breast cancer. It will be discussed how advocates and oncology professionals often face a variety of different and challenging communication situations too and how great care and skill are required. From preparing a message, to choosing the setting, appropriate language and nonverbal communication, there are many factors that need to be considered to ensure the communication experience is a positive and productive one for all parties.

*References:* JCO article (<https://ascopubs.org/doi/full/10.1200/GO.21.00045#.YRTInDAvtjk.twitter> )

### Programme

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| 8:45-8:55  | ABC Global Alliance welcome message (recorded)<br>Fatima Cardoso, PT  |
| 8:55-9:00  | Introduction<br>Fran Boyle, AU  |
| 09:00-9:45 | Panel discussion<br>Fran Boyle, AU - Runcie Chidebe, NG - Dorothy du Plooy, ZA – Eunice Mirekua, GH<br>Gertrude Nakigudde, UG - Gloria Orji, NG - Peter Vuylsteke, BW |

### Speakers and panellists

**Fran Boyle**, The Pam McLean Centre and Mater Hospital, Sydney, Australia (Medical Oncologist)

**Fatima Cardoso**, Champalimaud Clinical Center and ABC Global Alliance, Lisbon, Portugal (Medical Oncologist)

**Runcie Chidebe**, Project Pink Blue, Abuja, Nigeria (Psychologist).

**Dorothy du Plooy**, Cancer Association of South Africa (CANSA), South Africa (Patient advocate)

**Eunice Mirekua**, Peace and Love Hospital, Kumasi, Ghana (Nurse)

**Gertrude Nakigudde**, Uganda Women's Cancer Support Organisation, Kampala, UG (Patient advocate)

**Gloria Orji**, Abuja Breast Cancer Support Group (ABC-SG), Nigeria (Patient)

**Peter Vuylsteke**, University of Botswana Breast Cancer Unit, Gaborone, Botswana (Medical Oncologist)