Research Findings:
Supportive Care Resources
for women with Metastatic Breast Cancer
(Phase 1)

Aim: To find out about what supportive care resources and information (SCR) are available to women with metastatic breast cancer, what resources are valued and what would be useful to have access to.

WHO TOOK PART?
- 21 women with metastatic breast cancer took part and the majority were aged 50-59 years
- 11 key stakeholders took part i.e. breast care nurses, oncologists, GP, BreaCan, Breast Cancer Network Australia and Cancer Council Victoria staff

HOW DID PEOPLE TAKE PART?
- Interviews and focus groups = 15 interviews and 2 focus groups

Results: Experience of services, resources and information

6 Main Findings

- Accessibility issues
- Living with uncertainty (life is limited) & fluctuating health
- Medical focus on treatment
- Value SCR that are fit for purpose
- Seeking a holistic approach to health and wellness
- You don’t know what you don’t know

Overall issue: There are lots of supportive care resources and information out there but it’s hard to find, know what is useful and access them

[referring to information and resources]
“It needs a point that organisations can go this is where you start getting information …. Because we don’t know what we don’t know when we’re diagnosed.”

Quote from woman aged 50-59, 3 years and 8 months since diagnosis

Solution: Develop a SIGNPOST RESOURCE which raises awareness about reliable organisations who can provide information and support on a range of issues

WHAT IS NEXT?
In Phase 2, a signpost resource will be developed, piloted and evaluated to see if it is useful for women with metastatic breast cancer.

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To find out more about this study go to https://www.petermac.org/research/clinical-research-trials/clinical-research/cancer-experiences-research