# Decision making processes and needs of breast cancer patients in aftercare; developing a decision aid

No registrations found.

Ethical review Positive opinion

**Status** Recruiting

Health condition type -

**Study type** Observational non invasive

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON23482

**Source** 

NTR

**Brief title** 

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#### **Health condition**

Shared Decision Making, Breast Cancer Survivors, Personalized Aftercare, Decision Aid

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Maastricht university, Maastricht university medical centre

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: VGZ/CZ

#### Intervention

#### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

- 1. Decisional processes used by breast cancer patients
- 2. Needs and preferences concerning the decision aid.

#### **Secondary outcome**

Preferences concerning shared decision making

# **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

INTRODUCTION To develop an efficient decision aid (DA) it is necessary to understand how patients reach their decisions so that the DA can facilitate these processes. Therefore, the aim of the study was to assess which decision processes are used by breast cancer patients when choosing an optimal aftercare trajectory. Additionally, needs and preferences concerning the design of a DA were investigated.

METHOD Patients who have finished their treatment for breast cancer less than 1 year ago were asked to participate in one of 4 focus groups consisting of 4 to 6 participants. A semi-structured questionnaire was used to guide the discussion. All focus group data was coded by 2 independent researchers.

RESULTS Needs concerning an aftercare DA were highly personal and varied from leaflets to digital aids. Breast cancer patients reported to use both medical information and intuition to make decisions regarding their aftercare. While rational processes were used to consider whether options were relevant, intuitive processes played a major role in forming a preference for one option over the others. All patients indicated they wanted to make these decisions together with their healthcare provider, but greatly valued autonomy and preferred to make the final decision themselves.

CONCLUSIONS Both rational and intuitive processes seem to be important for patients in making a decision about their aftercare and should receive attention in the DA. Autonomy appeared to be important for patients as well. Therefore, a DA should allow patients to make an informed decision while maintaining their autonomy.

#### Study objective

A decision aid is developed to help facilitate personalized aftercare for breast cancer survivors. Needs, preferences and decisional processes used by breast cancer patients must therefore be investigated.

It is expected that breast cancer survivors use both rational and intuitive processes when deciding on an aftercare trajectory.

It is expected that needs and preferences concerning the decision aid will vary from one person to the next.

#### Study design

All participants are interviewed once

#### Intervention

No interventions are used in this study

## **Contacts**

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# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Inclusion criteria

- 1. Breast cancer survivor, adult woman (18+)
- 2. Primary treatment is finished
- 3. Still receiving immune therapy or hormone therapy

#### **Exclusion criteria**

- 1. Primary treatment has finished longer than 1 year ago
- 2. Still receiving primary treatment
- 3. having metastases
- 4. being a man

# Study design

### **Design**

Study type: Observational non invasive

Intervention model: Other

Allocation: Non controlled trial

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: N/A, unknown

#### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruiting
Start date (anticipated): 17-12-2013

Enrollment: 24

Type: Anticipated

## **Ethics review**

Positive opinion

Date: 28-01-2014

Application type: First submission

# **Study registrations**

## Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

## Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

# In other registers

Register ID

NTR-new NL4202 NTR-old NTR4413

Other IRB (MAASTRO clinic): 13-26-18/09-extern-6405

# **Study results**

## **Summary results**

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