FOR METASTATIC BREAST CANCER (MBC) HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Providing care for individuals with MBC presents a dilemma. Most will remain on therapy indefinitely, and treatment is often disrupted by drug toxicities that impact therapeutic efficacy and quality of life.

"More Is Better" Is No Longer the Standard

The FDA’s Project Optimus states, “Sponsors should carefully evaluate exposure-response, efficacy, and safety data from early trials to inform dose selection, rather than automatically selecting the maximum tolerated dose.”

Talk With Patients to Identify an Optimal Dose Together

To jointly determine the most favorable dose upon treatment initiation and thereafter, health care professionals and their patients should consider:

- The patient’s personal goals and wishes
- Performance status
- History of side effects from other drugs
- Current and past blood counts
- Indolent vs. aggressive disease
- Organ dysfunction/CNS metastases
- Body Mass Index
- Ability to afford medication or specialist visits to ease side effects
- Availability of patients’ at-home care

Ask Patients About Side Effects at Every Visit!

Though 100% of surveyed medical oncologists said they inquire about patients’ side effects at every visit, only 77% of surveyed MBC patients said this was the case.

Investigate Options for Mitigating Side Effects

Some strategies to discuss with patients may include:

- Dosage reduction
- Altering treatment frequency
- Palliative medications
- Switching treatments
- Referral to specialist
- Changing drug manufacturers
- Complementary measures (e.g., acupuncture, yoga)

Questions/Comments: Visit the Patient-Centered Dosing Initiative at TheRightDose.org or email info@TheRightDose.org