

# World Congress on Breast Cancer

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## Patient advocacy program for breast cancer patients in the eastern province “we care”

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Patient advocate is a person who helps a patient work with others who have an effect on the patient's health, including doctors, nurses, insurance companies, employers, case managers, and lawyers. A patient advocate helps resolve issues about health care, and job discrimination related to a patient's medical condition. Cancer advocacy groups try to raise public awareness about important cancer issues. The following important points will be discussed including: Why is being an advocate important now?, Why you should be an advocate? And what are the obstacles of patient advocacy? Explanation of the Goals of the Advocate to Inform, enhance autonomy and respect the decisions of others, even if we don't agree with it will be addressed. I will highlight the efforts by physicians, cancer foundations, cancer survivors, patients and their families to improve cancer management and provide comprehensive evidence based treatment, education, early detection and support to patients and their relatives in our region. Details of our advocacy group “we care” to communicate with the patients and their relatives will be explained. It is now well recognized the important role that patients, patient advocates, and other members outside of the traditional science community play in advancing cancer care and research.

### Biography

Medhat Faris is a Professor of Medical Oncology, King Fahad Specialist Hospital, Dammam KSA. He is trained in Medical Oncology at the Beatson Oncology Center, Glasgow, UK. He worked at Velindre Hospital, Maidstone Hospital, and Addenbrooke's Hospital UK. He was offered the opportunity to establish the Oncology service in the sultanate of Oman (1998-2008). He is the founder of the patient's advocacy program “We Care”. His work is focusing on breast cancer research and patient's care. He is also certified by the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) since Sept. 1999. Moreover, he participated in international, regional and national clinical trials and has more than 70 publications & he is the reviewer of several Indexed Journals.

### Notes: