



The Royal Society
6-9 Carlton House Terrace
SW1Y 5AG London
United Kingdom

5th annual breast cancer forum:
What causes breast cancer?

Date:
31 October 2018
From 08:30 to 18:00

The Latte Lounge
Top Tips For Women Over 40!



Breast Cancer: Doctor's dilemma and Patient's choices. Pink Ribbon and The Latte Lounge

Women aged 40-65 are a key demographic subgroup in modern society. They are often the ones bringing up our children and worrying about their aging parents.

"The filling between two slices of bread". In addition, in the age of sexual equality they are at their peak of their professions. Such women are also entering their peri-menopausal years and going on to suffer the consequences of the menopause in the age bracket 45-55. As well as the climacteric syndrome, these women also must cope with feelings of low self-esteem and depression.

Because of the heavy burden they must carry, they are often guilty of self-neglect and then health needs ignored. Breast cancer is also an important threat to this age group. These days it is considered good form for doctors to involve their patients in the decision-making process, but most merely pay lip service to this ideal. We sympathise with both sides of this dialogue because the subject is so difficult to understand.

Breast cancer and its treatment are terribly complex problems and experts themselves share many uncertainties. Yet there is now an ethical and legal obligation to share these uncertainties with our patients when we are looking for informed consent before invasive diagnostic or therapeutic procedures. The patient must be aware of the delicate trade-offs between improving length of life at the expense of quality

of life (QOL) and patient reported outcomes (PROMS). Our obsessive ruminations about the threat of breast cancer means that few in the lay public know that breast cancer has slipped out of the top 7 causes of death for women.

Treatments for breast cancer might increase the risk of death from cardiovascular disease whilst on the other hand denying women in this age group HRT for the unjustified fear of breast cancer can impair their QOL, cognitive function and bone mineral density.

The totality of women's health and expectation of life must always trump the single-issue fanatics who only view women as the sum of their two breasts. Women must not be passive in their search for good health. Women must educate themselves and then play the part as equal partners in the doctor patient relationship.

This conference, timed to fall within "Breast Cancer Awareness Month", hopes to start the ball rolling.

It is part of this year's breast cancer forum.

Programme

08.30–09.00	Registrations, tea, coffee
09.00–09.15	– Introductions and Welcome
	Gerard Dugdill, Publishing Director, Pink Ribbon, Dr Margaret Spittle OBE., Clinical Oncologist and Chairman, Europa Donna, UK Forum, Katie Taylor, CEO of The Latte Lounge
09.15–11.00	– Chair Kirsty Lang
	To screen or not to screen, that is the question!
09.15–09.45	"Screening for breast cancer does more good than harm" (To be arranged following further suggestions from Europa Donna)
09.45–10.15	"Screening for breast cancer does more harm than good" Michael Baum, Prof. Emeritus of Surgery and visiting Prof. Medical Humanities, UCL
10.15–10.30	"Giving women a choice- Stories from general practice." Dr. Renee Hoenderkamp (GP specialist in women's health)
10.30–11.00	Panel discussion, with speakers and questions from the floor
11.00–11.30	– Coffee Break
11.30–13.00	The benefits and harms of Hormone Replacement therapy
11.30–12.20	"Estrogen Matters!" Taking hormones in Menopause can improve Women's Well-Being and lengthen their lives Dr. Avrum Bluming; Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California.
12.20–12.30	"Giving women a choice – stories from general practice" Dr. Louise Newson, (GP and Menopause specialist, founder of www.menopausedoctor.co.uk and NewsonHealth).
12.30–12.40	"The role of the menopause councillor" Diane Danzebrink (Menopause Counsellor, Founder of The Menopause Support Network)
13.00–14.00	– Lunch
	Chairman Dr Margaret Spittle OBE
14.00–16.00	Intra-operative radiotherapy (IORT) and the TARGIT Trial The rationale and results of the TARGIT trial of IORT: Jayant S Vaidya, Prof Surgical Oncology UCL
14.00–14.20	The adoption and outcomes of TARGIT in Germany Professor Frederik Wenz, Chairman Department of Radiation Oncology University Medical Center Mannheim University of Heidelberg
14.20–14.40	The Patient's experience. Ms Marcelle Bernstein
14.40–15.00	Panel discussion with speakers, Prof Jeff. Tobias, Prof. Michael Douek and a representative from NICE, followed by questions from the floor
15.00–16.00	– Tea Break
	Chairman Prof. M. Baum
16.00–16.15	Suzanne White: Partner, Head of Clinical Negligence, Leigh Day
16.00–16.20	The ethical and legal responsibility of doctors in the new era of shared decision making
16.20–17.00	General discussion with questions from the floor
17.00	A vote of thanks and an invitation for drinks reception- Gerard Dugdill
17.05–18.00	– Book signing and drinks reception in the reception area