

# 13<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Breast Cancer

May 02, 2023

Webinar



**Video Presentation**

## Addressing the importance of animal models for breast cancer research

**Ana Faustino**

University of Evora, Portugal

Breast cancer is one of the most frequent cancers among women worldwide. According to the World Health Organization, in the year 2020, breast cancer was diagnosed in approximately 2.3 million women and victimized 685.00 women. The increasing number of breast cancer cases leads to the need to search for more effective diagnostic and therapeutic approaches for breast cancer care. Animal models have been used since early times to understand several diseases. *In vivo* studies are essential to improve and discover new strategies to prevent and treat cancer more effectively, improving patients' lifespan and quality of life. This presentation intends to describe the importance of animal models for breast cancer research, focusing on rodent models.

### Biography

Ana Faustino is Professor at Department of Zootechnics of University of Evora and Researcher at CITAB/UTAD. She holds a Master in Veterinary Medicine and a European PhD in Veterinary Sciences. Animal models of cancer, tumoral angiogenesis and imaging are her main areas of interest. She has collaborating in several Financed Research projects. The results of her works were published in more than 250 publications in several formats. She received several prizes of scientific merit and highlights and press honors. She has experience in supervising graduate and post-graduate students. She participated in several courses, workshops, international and national meetings. She is editorial member of several scientific journals and reviewer of more than 300 manuscripts. She is Guest Editor of two special issues in Veterinary Animals and in Life.

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## Navigating a cancer diagnosis: Helping patients understand their pathology results

**Lotte Mulder**

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**H**ealth literacy is associated with improved health outcomes. Primary care providers usually provide the majority of care to patients and are also usually the first point of contact for patients within a health system. A cancer diagnosis relies on pathology and laboratory medicine for the diagnosis and management of the disease. However, pathology reports are often encoded in jargon that patients cannot understand and patients do not always have direct access to their reports, limiting the patient's ability to make educated decisions. A new vision of health literacy in relation to pathology information is needed. What can we do so that all this scientific knowledge, which is currently unattainable due to the type of language being used, can be shared and used as a tool to inform people who are affected by cancer so they can make informed decisions about their own lives?

This session explains how oncologists, patient advocates and primary health care doctors can utilize pathology results to increase their patients' understanding of their diagnosis and lab test results, thereby increasing patients' health literacy. This session will focus on equipping participants with a toolkit of pathology resources and strategies to effectively explain their pathology report, diagnosis, lab test results and follow-up diagnostic care. These strategies are discussed within the context of both high and low-middle income country realities. Working towards this objective provides opportunities to strengthen healthcare systems and empower patients and conduct research to determine the impact of different approaches. It's imperative to work with all stakeholders across healthcare to advocate for a fundamental shift in the way we deliver knowledge that is built around the needs of people and their communities, in particular the knowledge and understanding of patients' diagnoses.

The goal is to raise awareness about the relevance of the pathology results for the patient's understanding of their treatment and prognosis and how patients can use the pathology results as a decision-making tool.

### Biography

Lotte Mulder is Director of Leadership and Empowerment at American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP), Greater Chicago Area, USA.

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