

## Going beyond awareness: We need real education

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There is a large gap between the general practitioner (or your family doctor) and when you talk to an oncologist. More specifically, the cancer patient learns more about breast cancer awareness and prevention after they have received a formal diagnosis.

As an individual with no medical history or genetic disposition for cancer, the thought of breast cancer was never on my mind. I learned more about breast cancer after my diagnosis than before. More importantly, in asking a lot of questions, there were a few simple steps I could have taken to ensure earlier detection and improve my long-term outcomes.

This presentation is a perspective of what did I do well and where was a completely lost-Highlighting lessons learned and looking backward with a goal to outline opportunities for future improvements.

### Biography

Melissa Drew is an international keynote speaker and award-winning data and digital transformation consultant. Her focus is how AI technologies impact procurement and supply chain organizations. She has received numerous awards such as Top 25 Global Consultants, Top Voice in Data and Women Thought Leaders to follow in 2023. Her priorities include running after twin teenagers, educating our next-generation workforce and providing more opportunities for women's voices to be heard at conferences. She also hosts a podcast, called 'The Impact of AI & Data', where she discusses global topics with women leaders and generation Z. A recent Cancer Warrior, she was diagnosed with Stage 3 breast cancer in Jan 2022 and is currently cancer-free. A force to be reckoned with, she continues to break down barriers and shares her knowledge and lessons learned freely.

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