

Case Study

Marie is a 65-year-old university professor diagnosed with a rare uterine carcinosarcoma (HER2 negative and MSI stable). She's had surgery (hysterectomy) and chemotherapy (through which she suffered greatly). When a nodule was later found in her lungs she received high targeted radiation. As her lung metastasis has progressed, she was offered the same chemo as before, which her oncologist said would offer her 30 percent chance of slowing the progression. She is thinking of refusing this treatment; she doesn't want to die but is worried about living her "remaining time" feeling as sick as she did through her initial chemo. Her family and friends encourage her to only be "positive", not allowing her to speak about her fears of a "hopeless" treatment and dying a painful death. She wants to work on her anxiety, talk openly about death, and learn how to live in the present moment.