10 Facty About Metastatic Breast Cancer (MBC)

- No one dies from breast cancer that remains in the breast. Life is threatened when cancer spreads or metastasizes to a vital organ, such as the liver, lungs, brain or bone marrow, .
- An estimated* 15,000 Canadians are currently living with metastatic breast cancer (also called Stage IV breast cancer). *Cancer registries do not track metastatic recurrences.
- 3. MBC accounts for about 5,000 deaths annually in Canada.
- 4. Treatment for MBC is lifelong and focuses on control of the disease and quality of life.
- 5. About 5% of people are Stage IV at their initial diagnosis.
- Early detection does not guarantee a cure. MBC can occur 5,
 10, 15 years after a person's original diagnosis and treatment.
- 7. 20% to 30% of people initially diagnosed with early stage disease will develop MBC.



- 8. Researchers still do not understand why breast cancers metastasize.
- 9. Young people, as well as men, can be diagnosed with MBC.
- 10. Like early stage breast cancer, there are different types of MBC.