

2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress on  
**BREAST CANCER**  
&  
**CANCER SCIENCE AND THERAPY**

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## **An insider view of breast cancer treatment through the eyes of a cancer patient**

**Sylvie Leotin**  
USA

This session led by a patient entrepreneur will offer a rare opportunity for oncology providers and researchers to discover the unseen and unaddressed needs of cancer patients undergoing treatment. Sharing vignettes from her personal cancer experience, this patient will offer a revealing lens into the human experience of cancer patients, invisible to outside observers. Many oncology providers have not had cancer themselves, and as such, it is hard for them to fully understand the treatment experience. This session was designed to address that gap and help oncology providers appreciate what it's like to be in the gown of a cancer patient sitting inside a waiting room, walking into a radiation suite, and receiving breast cancer treatment. Through evocative language and imagery, the speaker will help the audience discover layers of the cancer experience they had not seen before, and gain new insights to improve patient treatment and outcomes.

Innovation in cancer research primarily focuses on reducing death rates. Understandably. Saving human lives is an essential medical goal. This session will bring to the forefront another imperative goal: the need for reducing patient suffering. To this date, the stress and pain induced by cancer treatment remains staggeringly high. Cutting edge technology and skilled providers save millions of lives, but the treatment process often leaves patients feeling shattered and dehumanized. This in turns can impair healing and hinder outcomes. By helping caregivers see the unseen needs of cancer patients this patient hopes to spark a vision for collective change and redesign of the cancer treatment experience.

### **Biography**

Sylvie Leotin is a lone polymath in a highly-specialized world. A former gold medal ballerina and robotic scientist, I combine a highly-logical mind with deep perceptive skills. After 20 years of working in narrow jobs that used only a fraction of her skills, she got hit by cancer and suffered devastating losses.

she started to write her cancer journey, and, through the process, discovered a new voice she had never heard before. Her true authentic voice. Buried for so long. The voice of a person who has explored the depth of her own pain and can perceive the unarticulated pain of others. The voice of a person who can find beauty in every place and every day.

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