



Impact of the Scientist↔Survivor Program on Cancer Advocacy

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April 15, 2005

Who Am I?



- A twenty year breast cancer survivor
- In 2004 I represented the National Breast Cancer Coalition (NBCC); NBCC focuses on research, access and influence
- In 2005 I represent Y-ME National Breast Cancer Organization; Y-ME provides support for those who can't wait for research
- I am an advocate because I am lucky enough to be an advocate

Impact of Scientist↔Survivor Program

- ***Advocates***

- Share what you learned with others
- Become energized and focused
- Partner with other advocates
- Keep up some of the contacts you make



- ***Scientists***

- Are inspired by survivors and reminded of what they are trying to accomplish
- We can help them; find out how
- They can help us; ask them



AACR Annual Meeting

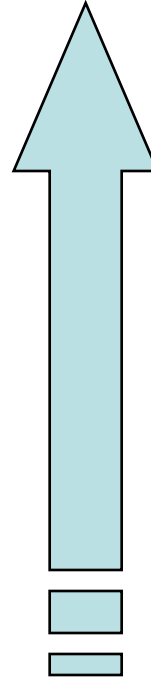
- Largest cancer meeting
- Covers full range of cancer research
 - Bench to Bed
 - ~ 30% of presentations are translational or clinical
- Covers all types of cancer



Types of Sessions

- Plenary Session
- Award Lectures
- Forums
- Symposia
- Mini-symposia
- New Concepts in Organ Site Research
- Late-Breaking Research Sessions
- Roundtable Sessions
- Meet-the-Expert Sunrise Sessions
- Poster Session

More Formal



Less Formal

- Scientist—Survivor Formal Sessions
- Scientist—Survivor Special Interest Sessions
- Scientist—Survivor AdHoc Sessions

Try them all!

A Few Warnings

- The meetings can be overwhelming
- The days can be exhausting

Pace Yourself



AACR Meeting Suggestions

- Try out formal and informal formats
- Try out early morning and late evening sessions
- Look for a few “big themes”
- Hear a few “star scientists”
- Chat up some beginning researchers (perhaps at the poster sessions)
- Learn something about a new technology



Scientist↔Survivor Opportunities

- Ask your mentor
- Ask other mentors
- Use Room 202 to rejuvenate yourself
- Attend some of the special interest sessions
- Network with other advocates



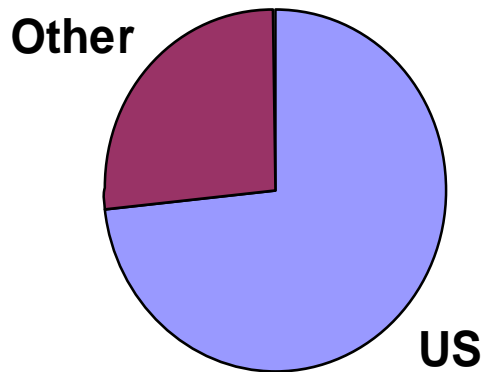
Some Statistics

- Currently there are about 8.9 million cancer survivors in US (>2m breast cancer survivors)
- This number will continue to increase:
 - Growing and aging population
 - Earlier detection
 - Better treatment

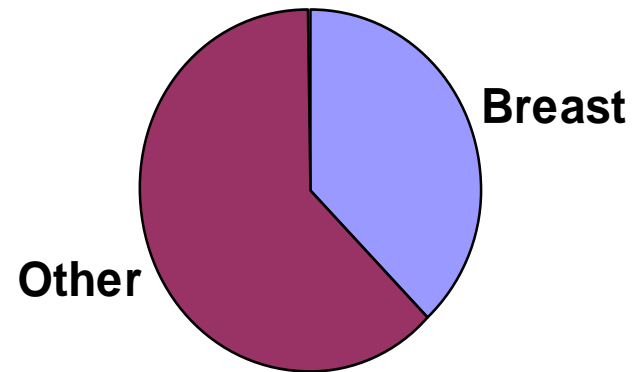


Survivor Participants

Strong International Representation

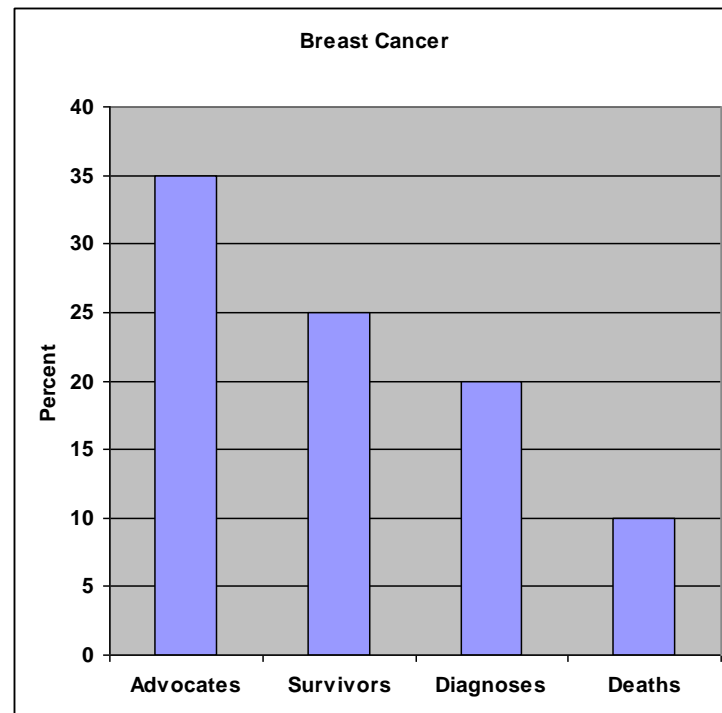


Strong Breast Cancer Representation



Breast Cancer

- More than 35% of participants in the Scientist—Survivor program have been affected by BC
- Almost 25% of US cancer survivors had BC
- Less than 20% newly diagnosed with cancer in 2005 will have BC
- Less than 10% of cancer deaths in 2005 will be due to BC
- Five year survival for BC in the US is about 88% vs. 64% for all cancers



Some Thoughts Especially For Breast Cancer Advocates

- We are lucky!
- We have a special responsibility
- Learn about common and special issues of other advocates
- Partner among ourselves, and with all advocates

