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The Secretary of the 23rd Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines  
Department of Essential Medicines and Health Products (EMP)  
World Health Organization (WHO)  
20 Avenue Appia  
CH-1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Dear Committee Members

I am writing as Chairwoman of One in 8, Bulgaria's foremost Breast Cancer Patients Organisation in support of the inclusion of Pertuzumab (Perjeta) to the 23rd Edition of the WHO Essential Medicines List (EML) 2021 under the category of cytotoxic and adjuvant medicines as a new medicines for the treatment of HER2 metastatic breast cancer.

Working closely with hospitals, doctors by supporting breast cancer patients for more than 9 years in Bulgaria we can see the benefits of Perjeta being used in the treatment of adult patients with HER2-positive breast cancer.

I personally was diagnosed with breast cancer, in 2012 in my left breast and 2017 in my right one. Both times my tumour was HER2 positive. The second time I had the opportunity to undergo neoadjuvant treatment with chemotherapy in conjunction with Herceptin and Perjeta. Thanks to my medical plan after six cycles, I had complete response to the treatment.

Being the Chair of the One in 8 Breast Cancer Foundation I have had the opportunity to meet with thousands of patients with early and metastatic breast cancer in Bulgaria.

Building the close relationships with patients, we from One in 8 Foundation has found that adults with metastases, years after the diagnosis are living their lives as before thanks to the continued treatment of Herceptin and Perjeta together and in some cases in conjunction with chemo or hormonal therapy.

At first, when I found out that my tumour was HER2 positive I was extremely scared as at that time, the only thing we, the patients, knew was that this type of cancer was more aggressive and its recurrence was more likely to occur. However, I will never forget how my chemotherapist turned to me and said, "Don't worry Mrs Gladwish and be happy, because now we have a special treatment for your type of cancer that gives us more opportunity to treat it. You must feel lucky your cancer is HER2 positive".

Now I understand completely what he meant.

In summary in Bulgaria the thousands of patients coming to One in 8 Foundation have shown that in the treatment of adults patients with HER2-positive breast cancer, adding Perjeta offers substantial clinical benefit across all indications - neoadjuvant, adjuvant and metastatic.

Yours Sincerely

Nana Gladwish  
Chairwoman Edna ot 8 Foundation  
(One in 8 Foundation)