

Breast Cancer

Poly-MVA Cancer Patient Testimonials

Trudi Balestreri

Date: October 20, 2004

Diagnosis: Stage 3 Breast Cancer

E-Mail: not available

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Picture
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To the entire Poly-MVA Team,

The first time I noticed the **lump in the summer of 2003 in my right breast**, I immediately went into the doctor's office and was told after a mammogram and ultrasound that it was benign.

After an **additional year had gone by**, and I noticed that **it was still growing**, and even noticed a small pea-sized knot in my left breast, I **returned to the doctor's office to find out that I had Stage 3 breast cancer**. Only being 40, and overwhelmed with sudden conversation about double mastectomy, aggressive chemo and radiation, I felt that I was in a nightmare and couldn't wake up.

I had surgery on both breasts July 15th, 2004. My follow-up treatment then was defined as aggressive chemotherapy starting August 16th 2004, and consisted of a total of 8 rounds of treatment, every two weeks. **The first four treatments were a combination of Adriamycin and Cytoxan, and the last four treatments were Taxol**. I followed my treatment schedule religiously, receiving the chemotherapy ever other Monday, referring to each day as #1 through #14. In order to keep my blood count up, I received Neupogen injections days 3 through 10 of each cycle.

Not knowing about Poly-MVA at the point in time I began my chemotherapy, **I woke up 3 days after my first chemo treatment unable to get out of bed.** I was experiencing unbearable migraine headaches, nausea, all the traditional side effects that one expects from chemotherapy. I fortunately, over the next few days my systems eased a bit, and I was able to get up, move around, and try to distract myself with things to keep my busy. Being the mother of 3 children, that was not hard to do.

Thank god for the efforts of my mother. **She ran across an article about Poly-MVA in a Sacramento magazine entitled *Comstocks*.** After receiving the okay from my Oncologist to have me begin taking Poly-MVA as an additional supplement to the traditional medical treatment, **I began the heavy dosage of two teaspoons, 4 times a day, on August 20th, 2004 -** Day 5 of my first chemotherapy cycle. I didn't notice any immediate results over the next week while I was **mentally trying to prepare for my next chemotherapy treatment and inevitable hair loss to come.**

Every morning after my second chemo treatment, I did the same thing by waking up afraid to open my eyes to assess how I felt. But **when Wednesday morning (Day3) came around that second time, I opened my eyes slowly in bed, looked at my husband, and couldn't believe it.**

I felt okay! I was practically skipping and jumping and yelling out that overall, I felt NOTHING like I had on Day 3 of the previous treatment. In fact, I was never 'down' in bed one other day throughout the remainder of the 16 weeks!

I credit my exceptionally high level of tolerance of the chemotherapy side effects to two things - my steadfast adherence to my schedule of **consuming the Poly-MVA four times daily as recommended,** and my desire to not let the cancer and the treatments get the best of me.

I continued the high dosage of Poly-MVA throughout the rest of the Chemotherapy, and throughout my **6 weeks of daily radiation treatments,** and even another month after that. I then slowly reduced my dosage over this last year. I now take only 2 teaspoons every morning - but continue to do that without fail.

My doctor has **always been very impressed with my tolerance of the aggressive treatment I received,** and **ongoing healthy condition.** Thanks to the efforts of my mom, and Poly-MVA.

Trudi Balestreri
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Breast Cancer Survivor