OVERVIEW: Low-income cancer patients often lack access to adequate palliative care services. The PAY-W (‘Pay As You Wish’) Clinic offers free or affordable palliative care services directly and through their not-for-profit partners to cancer patients with low income, primarily from indigenous communities in LMIC and countries affected by civil war.

Objective: To offer free or affordable palliative care services to low-income cancer patients

Unmet needs addressed:

• Low-income cancer patients, including those with ABC/mBC, often lack of access to affordable palliative care. The PAY-W Clinic offers patients a ‘Pay As You Wish’ option of paying what he/she can afford

Key components:

• Palliative care services for advanced cancer patients (including mBC), provided directly by the PAY-W Clinic and through partnerships with not-for-profit NGOs

• Alcohol and tobacco addiction treatment, provided through the PAY-W Clinic’s partner STEPS foundation, India

Challenge: To identify affordable and reliable palliative care organizations in the countries where the PAY-W Clinic has patient referrals. The Clinic is still searching for palliative care organizations in Kenya, Ethiopia and the Philippines

Outcome: Over 100 patients from 8 countries have benefited from the PAY-W Clinic’s services so far, including India, Pakistan, Iraq, Philippines, Kenya, Ethiopia, Kosovo and Australia

Development: The PAY-W Clinic team has 10 members dedicated to the administrative, legal, technical and medical work at their headquarter in India. Activities are funded by donations

Cost: <€5,000

Timeline: The initiative was started formally by Dr Suryakanta Acharya in 2017 as a lifelong project. Since 2021 it has operated as a not-for-profit initiative

Targeted to reach: 60-150

For more information:
https://suryaonco.wixsite.com/pay-w-clinic
Email: suryaoncology@gmail.com