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Patient Perspective: Navigating TGCT Treatment—Surgery vs Systemic Therapy

Announcer:

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Dr. Gelderblom:

This is CE on ReachMD, and I'm Dr. Hans Gelderblom.

Ms. Krijgsman:

My name is Elizabeth Krijgsman, and I'm a patient of Dr. Gelderblom's.

Dr. Gelderblom:

So, Elizabeth, can you share with us the impact that TGCT had on your mobility and daily activities prior to the treatment?

Ms. Krijgsman:

Yes, I can. I was in a lot of pain, and it was getting worse and worse. I was less able to do activities like walking with the dog, and my knee was already swollen after a short walk of 15 minutes.

And also, I'm a teacher of young—very young—children, so I often had to run and to bend my knees to talk with them and have some eye contact. And that was not even possible like it was before, a few years ago.

Dr. Gelderblom:

Okay, well, thank you for your clear explanation. And so can you tell me now about your treatment journey?

Ms. Krijgsman:

I think more than 10 years ago, I had reconstruction of my cruciate ligaments after a game of soccer, and my knee—it wasn't getting better. My knee stays now hurt, and there was a lot of stiffness and a lot of pain. So I went back to my orthopedic surgeon, and they wanted a second opinion in Leiden, to your colleagues. And when I had an MRI, they saw a weird tissue on my knee, and it seems to be a tumor.

And that's how I came to you, because I heard about the program.

I started with 2 pills in 1 day. I had to start with that. It was in 2024—February. And I came back to you within 3 months, and the tumor shrunk by almost 1 cm, I believe. That gave me great hope.

But after 6 months, I took 2 pills in 1 day. I got swollen eyes, and I was itching. My face was swollen. I had a sun allergy. And because of those things, we made it now for almost 1 year. I think since December last year, we're going back to 1 pill in 1 day, and it's getting better. And yeah, my knee is less stiff, and the fluid in my knee is less than before.

Dr. Gelderblom: Okay, well, that's great. So the name of the study—we call that the MANEUVER study you participated in.

So you went back from 2 pills per day to 1 pill per day, and how did it affect the side effects and the efficacy in your knee?

Ms. Krijgsman:

Actually, it's stable for now. I don't even have side effects. My knee is less stiff, and the fluid is less. I have less pain, and it's getting better. And I think the tumor seems to be stable—we see on MRI.

Dr. Gelderblom:

So no operation for you in the near future?

Ms. Krijgsman:

No, I don't think so.

Dr. Gelderblom:

That's great. That's great. So I see from your face that you're happy with the current treatment. You participated in the MANEUVER study, and after a long time, as you explained, and it seems like your functioning and your quality of life is back to almost 20 years ago, maybe.

Ms. Krijgsman:

Yeah. Yeah.

Dr. Gelderblom:

And I'm very happy for you, and we can continue the treatment as it is. And I would like to thank you very, very much to explain to the audience what the impact of the treatment and also of the disease is on your life. So I think this has been a great discussion. Our time is up, and thanks for listening.

Ms. Krijgsman:

Thanks very much.

Announcer:

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