

# PACIFIC SHORES MEDICAL GROUP

A Hematology/Oncology Subspecialty Private Practice  
Member, UCLA Affiliated Translational Oncology Research Network

*Friendly*

*Eliz*

by Eliz Hekimyan  
Breast Cancer Survivor

I did not get depressed when I was diagnosed with breast cancer four years ago at the age of 49. I didn't ask myself, "Why me? Why me?"

Instead, I asked, "Why not me?" I prepared myself for the challenges ahead of me by reminding myself that my life is so beautiful, and cancer would not stop me from living. I was treated for one year.

I am especially thankful for the support of my primary care physician, Dr. Silva Karchikian, my surgeon David Davtyan, my radiologist Christopher Rose, my oncologist Dr. Kalust Ucar, and the wonderful medical team at Pacific Shores Medical Group. They genuinely cared about me, and I was treated as a person living and coping with cancer, not as just another patient.

I also have the unconditional love and continuous support from my two amazing daughters, Ani and Nare.

My entire family had so much trust in Dr Ucar and his staff. We all know I received the best care and remain in good hands at Pacific Shores Medical Group.

*"Our mother never let cancer live for her, she simply lived with cancer."  
-Ani and Nare Garibyan (daughters of Eliz Hekimyan)*

*"Many physicians treat the disease and not the person. It takes a person to control and live well with a disease. Living well with cancer can be a true reality."  
-Silva Karchikian, MD*

## —Tomorrow's Treatment

### Soar To Survive: A Diary of Treatment (cont.)

Seven years ago, Mrs. TJ was diagnosed with breast cancer. She consulted with Dr. Ucar regarding treatment, and today she is cancer free. The following are a few highlights from her personal diary, documenting her journey through diagnosis and treatment.

*When I was 59 years old, I was diagnosed with an invasive left breast cancer that had spread into four lymph nodes under my arm. This meant I had stage three cancer. I learned that most cancers are staged from zero to four, and the stage is an indicator of the risk of cancer coming back in the future. The higher the stage, the higher the risk. Since most cancers at stage three or below are curable, I hoped I could still have a normal life expectancy. This was the silver lining to the clouds. Stage three meant I could be cured, but I had to undergo aggressive chemotherapy, radiation, and hormonal treatment with Tamoxifen to reduce the risk of my cancer coming back in the future. Dr. Ucar and the staff of Pacific Shores Medical Group helped me walk through these treatments safely and efficiently.*

**The End**

*At Pacific Shores Medical Group, patients are provided with information and choices regarding treatment options. It is completely up to them to decide what treatments they are comfortable with.*

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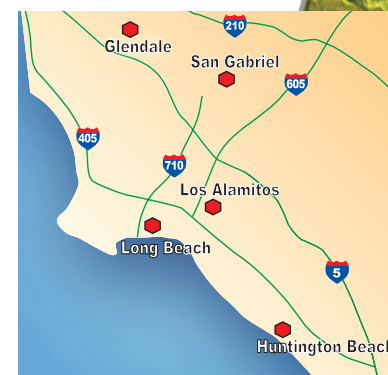
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