



# Overcoming silent despair

Inspire2Live Annual Congress 2024 | Amsterdam, October 28 and 29

Silent despair, rooted in our finite understanding of existence, manifests as internal anguish, often camouflaged beneath daily routines. Facing it demands authenticity and introspection, as advocated by Kierkegaard and echoed by disciples like Sartre and Jaspers. Cancer intensifies this existential battle. Kierkegaard's insights, complemented by his followers' perspectives, offers guidance for navigating silent despair amidst illness, by exploring how to embrace authenticity, seek support, confronting existential questions, practicing mindfulness and expressing creativity.

Borges' reflection on memory, coupled with the Japanese concept of Kintsugi, underscores the value of embracing life's scars. Just as Kintsugi repairs broken objects with gold, transforming them into something more beautiful, we can transform our pain into resilience. Society's pressure to appear flawless perpetuates the stigma around vulnerability. Yet it is our struggle that shapes us, akin to the golden scars of Kintsugi. In our journey through life, we encounter moments of pain and trauma. Like the mended pottery adorned with gold, our scars symbolize strength and resilience. By embracing our imperfections and transforming them into sources of beauty and value, we honor the essence of our humanity.

The majority of the people who die from cancer are from low- and middle-income countries. Lack of awareness, late-stage diagnoses, no access to medicine; there is a big and global inequality. We have to close the gap and all stakeholders have their responsibility. That's why Inspire2Live is an organization of all stakeholders in the medical industrial complex who are present at our congress. Our congresses have proven to be the start of many [initiatives](#).

Most of the patients and patient advocates live in the above-mentioned silent despair. How to overcome this? It is our belief that we can get cancer under control when we work together and put the patient in the centre of healthcare. We have more than 90 professional volunteers in more than 40 countries. We believe that the way to do this is to create a coalition of the willing and influence the ones who pull the strings. The Inspire2Live community is able to act upon this.

Our congress will take place at the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Click here to [register for our annual congress 2024 >>](#)

## We are thankful for this year's sponsors of our Annual Congress

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## Program Inspire2Live Annual Congress

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2024

9.00-9.30	Registration with coffee and tea	
9.30-9.45	Welcome by the conference chairs	Maureen Visscher & Tjebbe Tauber   I2L
9.45 - 10.15	The patient in silent despair.	Daniel Gomez   Inspire2Live
10.15-10.45	Oncology research and treatments in Africa	Ifeoma Okoye   University of Nigeria Nsukka
10.45-11.15	Break for coffee, tea and networking	
11.15-12.15	Round table: patient education and awareness: an example and the way to go, moderated by Alejandra Mendez	Ghada Ibrahim   I2L, Antonella Cardone   I2L, Luciana Holtz   I2L, Arthur Ajwang   Kisumu Hospital, Parag Mankeekar   RealLives
12.15-12.45	Spontaneous rapid-fire talks: you can sign up for speaking 3 minutes	Participants of the congress
12.45-13.15	Navigating between health and diseases with the use of devices	Stephen Friend   4YouandMe
13.15-14.00	Lunch, networking and preparation Out in the City.	
14.00-17.00	Out in the City	
Group 1	Pediatric Cancer Center PMC <b>TBC</b>	René Medema   PMC, Henk van Kranen   I2L
Group 2	Amsterdam UMC: CAR-T instead of BMT	Marie José Kersten   Amsterdam UMC, Jonathan Clark & Peter Kapitein   I2L
Group 3	Guided tour through Old Amsterdam	Gert Eijkelboom   DNB, Peter Kapitein   I2L
17.00-18.00	Report back 'Out in the city'	Maureen Visscher & Tjebbe Tauber
18.00-18.30	Presentation of the Inspire2Live Patient Advocate Hero of Cancer Awards	Piarella Peralta   I2L

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19.00-22.00 Networking dinner with music by Mark Moss

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2024**

8.30-9.15 Registration with coffee and tea

9.15-9.30 Welcome by the conference chairs

Maureen Visscher & Tjebbe Tauber

9.30-10.00 How are we helping patients under economic restrictions?

Tania Crombet | Center of Molecular Immunology Cuba

10.00-11.00 Round table: Precision medicine for the global patient: reality or dream? Moderated by Lex Houweling

Nibedita Rath | OSPF India, Beatrice Wiafe | Peace and Love Hospital Ghana, Gladys Honein | SAID Lebanon, Mark Lawler | Queens University Belfast

11.00-11.30 Break for coffee, tea and networking

11.30-11.45 Spontaneous Rapid-Fire Talks. You can sign up

Maureen Visscher & Tjebbe Tauber

11.45-12.15 Presentation of my work

Loay Kassam | Cairo University **TBC**

12.15-13.30 Multi Cancer Early Detection – the impact and necessity: how to get there, moderated by Kwasi Boahene | Pharm Access

Partha Basu | WHO-IARC **TBC**, Sara Sukumar | Johns Hopkins Univ, Mao Mao | SeekIn, Ifeoma Okoyo | Univ. of Nigeria Nsukka, Harry de Koning | Erasmus Univ.

13.30-17.00 Break-out sessions (lunch included)

Session 1 Lifestyle and cancer

Sebastian Brandhorst | Valter Longo Laboratory | Maria Lourdes | I2L

Session 2 Suggestion, depending on sponsor: Interventional Oncology

? | ?, Ilona Schelle | I2L

Session 3 Molecular diagnostics – the need for the global patient

Piarella Peralta | Illumina

17.00-17.30 Report back from the break-out sessions

17.30-18.00 Participants chosen during the congress give their feedback

Ilona Schelle | I2L

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18.00-21.00 Final networking dinner with music by Mark Moss

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