

Press release, Berlin, April 24th 2018

240 seconds legacy

- Unusual video clip goes around the world
- Film “Chocolate” as a valuable contribution to the educational work on ovarian cancer

On the occasion of the World Ovarian Cancer Day, the German Ovarian Cancer Foundation is planning another very special highlight in addition to the big information and activity day in Berlin on May 13th: The emotionally moving video “Chocolate” will go virally around the world on social networks from May 8th.

The young photo model Nancy Dietze, the protagonist of the film, not only wanted to draw attention with her artwork to the still tabooed diagnosis of ovarian cancer, but also to show the world that one can live and love despite life-threatening illness. She herself received the shocking prognosis in her mid-20s, but did not lose her courage to face life even in the most difficult times. Finally, she lost her big fight at the beginning of this year, but leaves the German Ovarian Cancer Foundation a very precious gift with her film “Chocolate”, which will help to educate the public about this malicious disease.

About 7500 women contract ovarian, fallopian tube and peritoneal cancer every year. Because of its complex treatment requirements, ovarian cancer is one of the real problematic diseases in Germany. On the one hand, this is due to the fact that there is no reliable screening and early detection and, on the other hand, the quality of treatment in Germany is not universally available and, unfortunately, many inadequate and non-guideline treatments are carried out on women with ovarian cancer, peritoneal and fallopian tube cancer, which have considerable negative influences on success rates and prognosis.

Nancy Dietze had a so-called low-grade ovarian cancer and had no family genetic history. She received a total of five different chemotherapies and was operated on three times. The film was made after an extensive cancer operation. The young patient wanted to show the disease that she would not give up without a fight and she wanted to leave her personal message to the women affected. Nancy's husband Ronald Flieth on his wife's motivation: “Nancy always wanted to show people what they could achieve with their own strength and energy. She wanted to let them participate in her emotional states and phases by means of this video and thus express that fear can also become courage. That beauty is in every human being and that beauty must not be in the hands of this disease.” The result was an emotional statement lasting 240 seconds, which was filmed by the renowned video artist Daniel Hetzel and the well-known film composer Mathias Fritsche.

Co-founder of the Foundation and Director of the Clinic for Gynaecology at the Charité, Professor Jalid Sehouli was deeply impressed by this valuable gift and understands the message of his former patient as such: “We doctors must do everything possible to support our patients in taking advantage of the best treatment options. We should promote even more the strength and creativity of patients for their health treatment, these can be completely different things, such as art therapies, creative writing or physical movement. And we must not stop looking for better treatment options in science. We have already achieved a great deal on the basis of studies in recent years, but we must continue our research activities because too many patients still suffer a relapse of the disease and die. Hence the call to support research for women with ovarian, fallopian tube and peritoneal cancer.”

With the first release of the film “Chocolate” in more than 17 languages on May 8th on the occasion of World Ovarian Cancer Day, the German Ovarian Cancer Foundation would like to remind us of

Nancy Dietze and use this work of art to draw attention to this treacherous gynaecological cancer. At the same time we also ask for support of ovarian cancer research, because that was the original wish of Nancy Dietze.

Research is the only way to significantly improve treatment options. The Foundation would like to thank its heroine Nancy Dietze once again for her great commitment and for the encounter with her.

Please help us to draw attention to the legacy of Nancy Dietze and to advance the research activities of this life-threatening disease. Support our global campaign "Chocolate" and watch the unique video clip on May 8th 2018 on the homepage of the German Ovarian Cancer Foundation, [www.http://stiftungeierstockkrebs.de](http://stiftungeierstockkrebs.de) or on Facebook at <https://de-de.facebook.com/DIWA.community/>.

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