

KPMAY

Kim is a 40-year-old divorced woman with stage II breast cancer. She is in acute care following a lumpectomy.

Kim describes feeling nervous and anxious as she comes to terms with her cancer. Particularly, she feels dismayed and saddened with her medical team. She reports that her interactions feel rushed and it is hard to elicit information that she feels she needs to make informed decisions. Kim feels like she is “just a number” and that, she “does not feel seen”. When she shows emotion in the presence of her care team, she feels she is not acknowledged, but rather dismissed.

Kim has recently divorced from her husband Jim. Together they share care of their ten-year-old daughter, Skyla. Jim has been supportive at this time and Kim is grateful for this. Kim is well supported by her Mum and they have a strong relationship. She describes her relationship with her sister as strained, having been like this for many years. They have grown apart and this causes her some anxiety as she tries to manage her ill health and care of Skyla. Kim shared that she looks toward the internet for information, both medical and how best to support Skyla. Kim is open to more information on how to help Skyla at this time.

Kim was raised in a Catholic family. She does not practice her faith by attending Church but has an overall spiritual outlook on life. She practices self-care through exercise and meditation. These have brought her strength through difficult periods in her life as they are now with her current health challenges. Kim declined a visit from Spiritual Care at this time, but is happy to continue to engage with Social Work.