

THEY TOLD ME I HAD THREE MONTHS TO LIVE



"I was told by my Oncologist that there was no treatment available to me in Australia and that I had three months to live."

A cancer diagnosis is a life-changing and terrifying ordeal to go through. In this paralyzing moment when you are told you have cancer, whatever was consuming your life prior suddenly recedes far into the background as you come to terms with your own mortality. Instantly you are thrust into a new world with confusing terminology, grim survival rates and an uncertain future.

No one understands this reality more than Airlie Beach local, Karen Filby.

Her journey began last September when she underwent several rounds of testing to pinpoint what was plaguing her health. She had been treated for bronchitis earlier in March, but she felt as though something was still wrong. Her GP referred her to a lung specialist in Townsville for testing. Karen's

first biopsy came back clear, the second biopsy was inconclusive, but after the third biopsy, she was told she had late stage lung adenocarcinoma (stage four lung cancer).

After receiving this diagnosis, her visit to an Oncologist in Mackay confirmed her worst fear.

"My Oncologist told my partner, Dave, and I, that it was all too late for anything else; that there was no treatment available to me in Australia and that I had three months to live. To go from bronchitis to three months to live was unthinkable," Karen said.

Results showed that Karen had 15 tumours in her lungs, and chemotherapy wasn't considered to be an effective option in her case.

"I was told to get my affairs in order and they started talking about palliative care," she said.

Thankfully, the tenacity in Karen is strong, and

even before she received the diagnosis from her Oncologist, the couple had begun researching methods on treating cancer naturally.

She commented, "The drugs they give you here in Australia to fight cancer frightened me more than the cancer did." Discovering that chemotherapy wasn't an option for Karen didn't slow her down, it only inspired her more to seek an alternative approach.

She visited a Naturopath on the Gold Coast, before discovering she had access to one of the best Integrative Medicine Practitioners only five minutes from home in Airlie Beach; Rowena Kissun from Kissun Clinics.

Rowena has both a medical and natural health background which benefitted Karen, as she needed someone who could work with her Oncologist as well as provide scientifically-verified natural treatments alongside medical treatments, to



reduce the spread of her cancer. Rowena works closely with a cancer hospital in Bangkok offering intravenous natural treatments, Insulin Potentiated Therapies, Hyperthermia, Immune Therapy including Natural Killer (NK) Cell Therapy and Low-dose Chemotherapy, all through Kissun Clinics and the hospital overseas.

Karen added, "We were introduced to Dr Hossami and spent time researching the results this clinic in Thailand had achieved. One particular testimonial was from a lung cancer patient who has been through exactly what I was going through. That made myself and Dave cry, we knew this was the right path for us."

She chose to undergo a nine-week treatment plan at the Bangkok clinic, specially tailored to treat her diagnosis.

"In Thailand, they concentrated on a mixture of Eastern and Western medicine with a focus on the body as a whole. When you walk through the door of the clinic you are broken; but piece by piece, day by day, they put you back together with love and kindness," she said.

Karen shared, "I struggled with the treatments at times, but the staff at the clinic keep you focused, they support you, they love you. When you think you're broken, you find that strength to keep going. They become your family and travel your journey by your side every step of the way."

She added further, "Dr. Hossami is a genius. When you think that you can't go on, he just looks at you, and you can. I was having one really bad day and I heard this voice behind me, 'Hello.' I turned around and he said, 'Come here' and he just wrapped me up in the biggest hug, what doctor does that?"

Karen came back from Bangkok with incredible results.

"After my PET scan, my tumours have reduced from 15 to 5 and my tumour markers have reduced by 50 per cent. What I have remaining can be controlled with oral medication and follow-up CT scans and blood tests here in Australia with help from Rowena, my Oncologist and the doctor in Thailand." says Karen.

Rowena is thrilled with Karen's results and highlights how natural alternatives can work hand-in-hand with modern medicine to achieve outstanding results.

"I love working with oncologists who appreciate what I do with diet, supplements and live blood testing; because it gives the patient numerous choices that may appear outside the box to some, but are overseen by our team of oncologists here and overseas. The team consists of doctors from Germany, Mexico, Thailand, USA and Australia, bringing new technologies in cancer treatments to patients in North Queensland either through my clinics in Cannonvale or Mackay or through the facility in Bangkok."

Throughout her ordeal, Karen experienced a rollercoaster of emotion; from the sadness of losing friends to the joy she found in strengthened love.

"Cancer has turned my life upside down. Negativity and pity have been difficult to deal with. I never saw this diagnosis as a death sentence, but other people did, and I had to learn to deal with that.

"I have lost people I thought would always be there and found angels in others I never thought I would. I have seen the best and worst in people and have learnt about kindness, compassion and discovered a strength I did not realise I had.

"It has changed my relationship with my partner Dave into an unbreakable love that nothing can touch."

Karen has advice for others who may be on a similar journey, saying that you have more than one option when it comes to fighting your own battle.

"I believe the cancer industry in Australia is driven by fear. They drive you to make a decision based on that fear. Stop. You're not going to die today, you're not going to die tomorrow. You're not even going to die next month. You have time."

For more information, please visit kissunclinics.com/oncology



Kissun Clinics

W H I T S U N D A Y S

INTEGRATIVE ONCOLOGY SOLUTIONS



Go to: www.kissunclinics.com/oncology to fill out an enquiry form or to learn more or call 07 4946 7910 for appointments in Mackay, Cannonvale or Sydney