

# MMRF FastFacts

A monthly e-newsletter



Dear Friends,

2011 was an incredible year for the MMRF and the patients for whom we so urgently work. Thanks to your support, we opened a record number of clinical trials and opened the first expanded access program in more than five years in collaboration with Onyx. Your donation also enabled us to launch our groundbreaking Personalized Medicine Initiative and its flagship study, CoMMpass .



Building upon these landmark achievements, our team at the MMRF hit the ground running this year, working urgently to launch critical clinical trials of lifesaving new treatments for multiple myeloma and build upon the incredible momentum we have created in bringing patients better, more personalized treatments. We look forward to sharing our progress with you as we make 2012 the best year yet for all those touched by multiple myeloma.

Best regards,

Kathy Giusti

## BREAKING NEWS

### MMRF in Top 1% of Nonprofits

Charity Navigator, the nation's largest and most well-respected non-profit evaluator, bestowed to the MMRF its highest rating for exceptional fiscal responsibility, accountability and transparency for the ninth consecutive year, a coveted recognition that less than one percent of charities ever receive. [More >](#)

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### MMRC Launches Record Number of Trials in 2011

The MMRC opened eight clinical trials in 2011 -- more than any other year since the Consortium was founded in 2004. The record-breaking number of trials includes eight innovative Phase 1 or Phase 2 trials in patients with newly diagnosed, relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma, representing a broad range of options for patients. [More >](#)

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### MMRF CEO Featured as "Agent of Change"

New Canaan-Darien Magazine, an authority on civic and social responsibility in Connecticut, highlights the MMRF for its hard won progress against multiple myeloma in the current January/February issue. [More >](#)

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### MMRF Moderates Debate on Clinical End Points

A move by the FDA to remove an indication on the breast cancer drug, Avastin, reignited a long-standing debate on what the best proof is that a drug works and should be approved: overall survival vs. progression-free survival. The MMRF's Anne Quinn Young moderated a recent panel discussion, "Surrogates or Survival: A Discussion on Endpoints in Multiple Myeloma Clinical Trials," that brought together industry leaders to discuss multiple myeloma clinical trials design. [More >](#)

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## RESEARCH UPDATES

### Sequential bortezomib, dexamethasone and thalidomide maintenance therapy post single autologous peripheral stem cell transplant in patients with multiple myeloma

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Sahebi F, Frankel PH, Farol L, Krishnan AY, Cai JL, Somlo G, Thomas SH, Reburiano E, Popplewell LL, Parker PM, Spielberger RT, Kogut NM, Karanes C, Htut M, Ruel C, Duarte L, Murata-Collins JL, Forman SJBiol Blood Marrow Transplant. 2011 Dec 22. [Epub ahead of print]

### Management of treatment-emergent peripheral neuropathy in multiple myeloma

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Richardson PG, Delforge M, Beksac M, Wen P, Jongen JL, Sezer O, Terpos E, Munshi N, Palumbo A, Rajkumar SV, Harousseau JL, Moreau P, Avet-Loiseau H, Lee JH, Cavo M, Merlini G, Voorhees P, Chng WJ, Mazumder A, Usmani S, Einsele H, Comenzo R, Orłowski R, Vesole D, Lahuerta JJ, Niesvizky R, Siegel D, Mateos MV, Dimopoulos M, Lonial S, Jagannath S, Blad@ J, Miguel JS, Morgan G, Anderson KC, Durie BG, Sonneveld P  
*Leukemia*. 2011 Dec 23

### A phase 1, multicenter, open-label, dose escalation study of elotuzumab in patients with advanced multiple myeloma

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Zonder JA, Mohrbacher AF, Singhal S, van Rhee F, Bensinger WI, Ding H, Fry J, Afar DE, Singhal AK  
*Blood*. 2011 Dec 19 [Epub ahead of print]

### Multiple myeloma: 2012 update on diagnosis, risk-stratification, and management

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Rajkumar SV  
*Am J Hematol*. 2012 Jan;87(1):78-88

### How to Manage Neutropenia in Multiple Myeloma

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Palumbo A, Blad@ J, Boccadoro M, Palladino C, Davies F, Dimopoulos M, Dmoszynska A, Einsele H, Moreau P, Sezer O, Spencer A, Sonneveld P, San Miguel J  
*Clin Lymphoma Myeloma Leuk*. 2011 Dec 15 [Epub ahead of print]

### Thalidomide versus dexamethasone for the treatment of relapsed and/or refractory multiple myeloma: results from OPTIMUM, a randomized trial

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Kropff M, Giongo-Baylon H, Hillengass J, Robak T, Hajek R, Liebisch P, Goranov S, Hulin C, Blade J, Caravita T, Avet-Loiseau H, Moehler TM, Pattou C, Lucy L, Kueenburg E, Glasmacher A, Zerbib R, Facon T  
*Haematologica*. 2011 Dec 1 [Epub ahead of print]

## CLINICAL TRIALS

Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Pomalidomide Monotherapy in Subjects With Refractory or Relapsed Refractory Multiple Myeloma  
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A Study of ARRY-520 in Patients With Relapsed or Refractory Multiple Myeloma  
[More >](#)

Effect of AT7519M Alone and AT7519M Plus Bortezomib in Patients With Previously Treated Multiple Myeloma  
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## PATIENT EDUCATION

### Online Education

Couldn't make the last MMRF Clinical Insights? Watch this webcast to learn about new treatment options from the world's leading myeloma doctors!

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## GET INVOLVED

### MMRF Endurance Events

Start 2012 with a great goal on your calendar and support the MMRF - Run, Bike or Tri! Join the MMRF PowerTeam at one of our great races. To learn more, please visit: [Endurance Events](#) or [email us](#).

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### Chicago Awards Dinner

Please mark your calendar for Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago for the MMRF Chicago Awards Dinner. Pat Williams, Senior Vice President of the NBA's Orlando Magic, Author and Motivational Speaker, will be the Spirit of Hope Award Honoree. For more information, please email [events@themmr.org](mailto:events@themmr.org).

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### Laugh for Life: New York

Join us on Thursday, May 3, 2012, at our new venue Pier Sixty, Chelsea Piers, for the 10th Anniversary of MMRF Laugh for Life: New York - a comedy event celebrating life through laughter. For more information, please email [laugh@benefitoffice.org](mailto:laugh@benefitoffice.org).

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### Start a Fundraiser

Make 2012 a great year for those in the fight against multiple myeloma. Host an event to raise funds for the MMRF to continue supporting vital research. Events can range from golf tournaments, cocktail parties, bowling nights and anything that you can imagine. For more information, please contact [events@themmr.org](mailto:events@themmr.org).

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### MMRF Race for Research Series

Thank you to everyone who participated or donated to the 2011 MMRF Race for Research Series. For information on the 2012 Series, please visit: [Race For Research](#) or email [aces@themmr.org](mailto:aces@themmr.org).

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