

MMRF FastFacts

A monthly e-newsletter



Dear Friends,

With the American Society of Clinical Oncology's (ASCO) 2010 Annual Meeting coming to a close earlier this week, our team is quickly back to work more energized than ever about these new data that were presented. These data, including findings from clinical trials conducted through the Multiple Myeloma Research Consortium (MMRC), indicate that when today's standard therapies fail, there will be effective options. In addition, large, randomized clinical trials of standard therapies, including Revlimid® (lenalidomide) and Velcade® (bortezomib) for Injection, found that administering these therapies as part of a maintenance regimen significantly prolonged the duration of remission. To learn more, check out my [blog](#) and [listen to the MMRF's webcast](#) from for more highlights from the Meeting.



Best Regards,
Susan Kelley, MD
Chief Medical Officer

P.S. We value your feedback – [please let us know what you think.](#)

**ASCO 2010 ANNUAL MEETING
UPDATES**

CLINICAL TRIALS

Study of Vorinostat (MK0683), an HDAC Inhibitor, in Combination With Bortezomib in Patients With Relapsed or Refractory Multiple Myeloma.
[More >](#)

Panobinostat or Placebo With Bortezomib and Dexamethasone in Patients With Relapsed Multiple Myeloma
[More >](#)

Assessment of Efficacy and Safety of Perifosine, Bortezomib and Dexamethasone in Multiple Myeloma Patients
[More >](#)

EXPERT INSIGHTS

Webcast from ASCO

Listen to our webcast from ASCO for detailed information and expert perspectives from Drs. Paul Richardson, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and Todd Zimmerman, University

PROMISING DATA FROM MMRC-FACILITATED TRIALS

Data from trials the MMRC conducted in collaboration with Onyx Pharmaceuticals and Bristol-Myers Squibb were presented in three oral sessions. [More >](#)

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DATA PRESENTED CONFIRM REVLIMID'S OVERALL BENEFIT

Two large, randomized trials found patients patients treated with low-doses of Revlimid enjoyed a longer remission following stem cell transplant than those with placebo. [More >](#)

A treatment regimen of Revlimid, melphalan and prednisone was found to be comparable to an autologous transplant without the recovery time and side effects associated with stem cell transplant.

[More >](#)

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VELCADE-BASED COMBOS DELIVER HIGH RESPONSE RATES

Velcade-based combination treatments demonstrated high response rates in both transplant and non-transplant eligible newly diagnosed patients, as well as in the maintenance and relapsed settings. [More >](#)

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POMALIDOMIDE, DEX COMBO BOOSTS RESPONSE

Data from a small Phase II trial show that fifty-four percent of multiple myeloma patients who are refractory to both Revlimid and Velcade achieved a partial response or better after being treated with a pomalidomide and dexamethasone. [More >](#)

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PATIENTS WITH RELAPSED DISEASE RESPOND TO CARFILZOMIB

Data from an MMRC-facilitated Phase II trial show that fifty-five percent of patients with relapsed multiple myeloma had partial response or better when treated with carfilzomib. [More >](#)

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of Chicago. This is one program you do not want to miss.

[LISTEN](#)

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GET INVOLVED

MMRF Race For Research - Tri-State

Join us on Sunday, June 13, for the 7th Annual MMRF Race for Research - Tri-State. Set in New Canaan, Connecticut, the MMRF Race for Research Tri-State offers a scenic course that is ideal for both runners and walkers. For more information, email: higginsl@themmrf.org.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

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Premier Athletics

Run/Bike/Tri Your Own Race. Participate in a race of your own choosing and support the MMRF! The MMRF will provide training, fundraising assistance, and inspiration every step of the way. To learn more, email: premierathletics@themmrf.org.

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STAY CONNECTED

CHEMO PLUS ZOMETA IMPROVES OVERALL SURVIVAL

The addition of Zometa® (zoledronic acid) to first-line chemotherapy significantly improves overall survival for newly diagnosed multiple myeloma patients by 16 percent and progression-free survival by 12 percent compared with oral clodronate plus first-line chemotherapy. [More >](#)

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NOVEL KSP INHIBITOR WELL-TOLERATED BY MYELOMA PATIENTS

ARRY-520, a novel kinesin spindle protein (KSP) inhibitor, is well tolerated by heavily treated multiple myeloma patients with relapsed or refractory disease.

[More >](#)

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Shop MMRF!

We've added new items to MMRF Acorn Collection just in time for Father's Day. Check out our new Vineyard Vines MMRF ties and tote bags. Purchasing apparel or an item of jewelry from the MMRF is a wonderful way to say thank you to friends and loved ones for their support, or to recognize birthdays, anniversaries, and other special occasions. Visit our store today!

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BREAKING NEWS

MMRF Laugh For Life: New York Raises Almost \$600,000 For New Treatments

Our 8th Annual Laugh for Life: New York held May 25 at B.B. King Blues Club & Grill in New York city, raised more than \$570,000 to advance our research portfolio and accelerate the delivery of next-generation treatments. NBC Today's Al Roker served as emcee and Grammy-Nominated comedian Bobby Collins headlined the evening, with comedians Sherry Davey and Rob Magnotti also performing. Thank you to everyone, -- especially event founders Carol Goldschein, Sue Korn and Cindi Stern who helped make this event an evening to remember!

[More >](#)

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Forbes Highlights the MMRF

Forbes.com features the MMRF in "Patients Teach Scientists To Share," the latest entry on The Science Business, a health care blog. The blog post recognizes the MMRF for revolutionizing the way that blood cancers are being treated by enabling academics and drug companies to share data. [More >](#)

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Newsweek Recognizes the MMRF

Newsweek includes the MMRF in a recent cover story: "Desperately Seeking Cures" as a foundation funding promising research and trials. The MMRF is also acknowledged for requiring the sharing of data between scientists and encouraging collaboration to advance research. [More >](#)

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RESEARCH UPDATES

[Lenalidomide plus dexamethasone vs lenalidomide plus melphalan and prednisone: a retrospective study in newly diagnosed elderly myeloma](#) [More >](#)

Gay F, Vincent Rajkumar S, Falco P, Kumar S, Dispenzieri A, Petrucci MT, Gertz MA, Boccadoro M, Stewart AK, Palumbo A
Eur J Haematol. 2010 May 8. [Epub ahead of print]

[Combined proteasome and histone deacetylase inhibition: A promising synergy for patients with relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma](#)

[More >](#)

Jagannath S, Dimopoulos MA, Lonial S
Leuk Res. 2010 May 14. [Epub ahead of print]

[Management of disease- and treatment-related complications in patients with multiple myeloma](#) [More >](#)

Gay F, Palumbo A
Med Oncol. 2010 May 14. [Epub ahead of print]

[The quality of response to lenalidomide plus dexamethasone is associated with improved clinical outcomes in patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma](#) [More >](#)

Harousseau JL, Dimopoulos MA, Wang M, Corso A, Chen C, Attal M, Spencer A, Yu Z, Olesnyckyj M, Zeldis JB, Knight RD, Weber DM
Haematologica. 2010 May 11. [Epub ahead of print]

[Melphalan and prednisone plus thalidomide or placebo in elderly patients with multiple myeloma](#) [More >](#)

Waage A, Gimsing P, Fayers P, Abildgaard N, Ahlberg L, Björkstrand B, Carlson K, Dahl IM, Forsberg K, Gulbrandsen N, Haukas E, Hjertner O, Hjorth M, Karlsson T, Knudsen L, Nielsen

JL, Linder O, Mellqvist UH, Nesthus I, Rolke J, Strandberg M,
Sorbo JH, Wisloff F, Juliusson G, Turesson I
Blood. 2010 May

Timing of first-line cancer treatments -
Early versus late - A systematic review of
phase III randomized trials [More >](#)

Mhaskar AR, Quinn G, Vadapampil S, Djulbegovic B, Gwede
CK, Kumar A
Cancer Treat Rev. 2010 May 3. [Epub ahead of print]

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