

MMRF FastFacts

A monthly e-newsletter



Dear Friends:

We are pleased to bring you the first issue of *MMRF FastFacts*. This monthly electronic newsletter was



developed in place of *SmartBrief* to empower the myeloma community with important information about the disease, its treatment options and ways to get involved with the MMRF.

In multiple myeloma, knowledge is power. We hope these FastFacts help empower you with all the information you need to know. Remember, together, our powerful thinking advances the cure.

All the best,

Kathy Giusti

P.S. We value your feedback – **please let us know what you think.**

Clinical Trials

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

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

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

2009 – At a Glance

2009 marked a year of extraordinary strides against myeloma. Six clinical trials, opened through our research consortium, enriched the **MMRF/MMRC clinical pipeline**. Six treatments advanced to the next stage of drug development – three in Phase III trials. And, we mapped the myeloma genome – a research first and an incredible step toward personalized medicine. Our progress is already making a real difference for patients, but with these milestones laying the path for our research and drug discovery efforts in 2010, the true impact has yet to be felt. As pioneers, we will leave no stone unturned in discovering and exploring new drug classes that show potential in treating the disease and in mining those drug classes that have already proven effective. And, in all we do, we will keep an eye toward personalized medicine to move closer to a cure.

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Breaking News

First MMRC Patient Enrolled in Phase II Study of Elotuzumab

Facet Biotech Corporation has enrolled the first patient into the Phase II portion of its ongoing Phase I/II clinical trials of elotuzumab, a promising antibody being studied for the treatment of relapsed myeloma in combination with Revlimid® and low-dose dexamethasone. The Multiple Myeloma Research Consortium clinical centers have played a key role in advancing the combination. [More >](#)

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Expert Insights

MMRF Clinical Insights

If you or someone you love is a myeloma patient, you do not want to miss MMRF Clinical Insights. Join us at our next program on **Fri., April 9, in New York City**. For more information, email tyghters@themmrf.org or call 203.652.0219.

[Register Now](#)

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Get Involved

MMRF Chicago Awards Dinner

Mark your calendars for **Wed., April 28, at the Four Seasons Hotel – Chicago for the 9th annual MMRF Chicago Awards Dinner**.

James Brown, CBS Sports broadcaster and author of "Role of a Lifetime," will serve as keynote speaker. Bonnie Hunt, actor, director, producer, and writer, will act as mistress of ceremonies. For more information, email

lsmith@pjhchicago.com.

[Register Now](#)

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Continuous Revlimid® Following Stem Cell Transplant Boosts Survival

Myeloma patients in an international Phase III clinical trial who were treated with Revlimid® following an autologous stem cell transplant had superior progression-free survival compared with those who were not treated with Revlimid. Further data from the study will be presented later this year. [More >](#)

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Velcade® Survival Benefit Now Included on Drug Label

Long-term follow-up data show a 35 percent reduction in the risk of death for myeloma patients treated with Velcade® compared with patients treated with melphalan and prednisone. The U.S. FDA has approved the addition of this data to Velcade's label, meaning the company can promote that benefit when selling the drug. [More >](#)

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Research Updates

Plerixafor (Mozobil®) Alone to Mobilize Hematopoietic Stem Cells From Multiple Myeloma Patients for Autologous Transplantation [More >](#)

Flomenberg N, Comenzo RL, Badel K, Calandra G

Biol Blood Marrow Transplant. 2010 Jan 9. [Epub ahead of print]

Melphalan, Prednisone, Thalidomide, and Defibrotide in Relapsed/Refractory Multiple Myeloma: Results of Multicenter Phase I/II Trial [More >](#)

Palumbo A, Larocca A, Genuardi M, Kotwica K, Gay F, Rossi D, Benevolo G, Magarotto V, Cavallo F, Bringhen S, Rus C, Masini L, Iacobelli M, Gaidano G, Mitsiades C, Anderson K, Boccadoro M, Richardson P; for the Italian Multiple Myeloma Network, GIMEMA

Haematologica. 2010 Jan 6. [Epub ahead of print]

MMRF Laugh for Life

Join us on **Tues., May 25, for**

MMRF Laugh for Life, a comedy event to raise research funds and celebrate life. Seating is limited – purchase tables and tickets early. For more information, visit benefitoffice.org/laugh.

[Register Now](#)

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MMRF Powerful Athletes

The MMRF Powerful Athletes Program has a limited number of guaranteed entries to the **New York City Half Marathon**, **Five Boro Bike Tour**, **New York City Triathlon**, or the **ING New York City Marathon**.

Join our team today – we provide training, fund-raising support, and unlimited inspiration. To learn more, email oneilla@themmrf.org.

[Register Now](#)

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Bortezomib as Induction Before Autologous Transplantation, Followed by Lenalidomide as Consolidation-Maintenance in Untreated Multiple Myeloma Patients [More >](#)

Palumbo A, Gay F, Falco P, Crippa C, Montefusco V, Patriarca F, Rossini F, Caltagirone S, Benevolo G, Pescosta N, Guglielmelli T, Brighen S, Offidani M, Giuliani N, Petrucci MT, Musto P, Liberati AM, Rossi G, Corradini P, Boccadoro M

J Clin Oncol. 2010 Jan 4. [Epub ahead of print]

Current Multiple Myeloma Treatment Strategies With Novel Agents: a European Perspective [More >](#)

Ludwig H, Beksac M, Bladé J, Boccadoro M, Cavenagh J, Cavo M, Dimopoulos M, Drach J, Einsele H, Facon T, Goldschmidt H, Harousseau JL, Hess U, Ketterer N, Kropff M, Mendeleeva L, Morgan G, Palumbo A, Plesner T, San Miguel J, Shpilberg O, Sondergeld P, Sonneveld P, Zweegman S

Oncologist. 2010 Jan 20. [Epub ahead of print]

Long-term Follow-up of Autotransplantation Trials for Multiple Myeloma... [More >](#)

Barlogie B, Attal M, Crowley J, van Rhee F, Szymonifka J, Moreau P, Durie BG, Harousseau JL

J Clin Oncol. 2010 Jan 19. [Epub ahead of print]

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