

# MMRF FastFacts

A monthly e-newsletter



Dear Friends,



I am excited to share news of an innovative partnership spearheaded by Dr. Bruce Elsey and Kathy Elsey, owners of Precious Cat Litters, where all sales in November will benefit the MMRF in its mission to accelerate the development of next-generation myeloma treatments to extend patients' lives and lead to a cure.

Since Kathy's diagnosis with multiple myeloma nearly two years ago, she and Bruce have been transformative MMRF supporters. We are so grateful for their ongoing commitment, and applaud this creative endeavor to raise much needed funds that will allow us to continue our urgent work on behalf of myeloma patients.

There are endless ways to support the MMRF, and we welcome your unique ideas. [Read more](#) about our partnership.

All the best,

Kathy Giusti

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

## Clinical Trials

Efficacy of Panobinostat in Patients With Relapsed and Bortezomib-refractory Multiple Myeloma (PANORAMA II)

[More >](#)

Study of Vorinostat (MK0683) an HDAC Inhibitor, or Placebo in Combination With Bortezomib in Patients With Multiple Myeloma (0683-088)

[More >](#)

Study to Determine the Maximum Tolerated Dose and Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of CEP-18770 in Patients With Relapsed Multiple Myeloma Refractory to the Most Recent Therapy

[More >](#)

## Expert Insights

### MMRF Clinical Insights

Learn about myeloma treatment options. Register today for our upcoming patient education program Fri., Oct. 15, in Houston. For more information, [email](#)

Sara Tyghter or call

203.652.0219.

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## Get Involved

### MMRF Fall Gala

Register now! The 14th Annual MMRF Fall Gala will be held Sat., Oct. 30, at the Hyatt Regency Greenwich in Old Greenwich, CT. Famed Pianist and Vocalist Diana Krall will perform as the event's featured artist and will be joined by legendary singer and songwriter Paul Simon. Deborah Norville, Emmy Award winning broadcast journalist, will serve as mistress of ceremonies. For more information, [email](#)

[mmrf@benefitoffice.org](mailto:mmrf@benefitoffice.org).

[PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

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### MMRF Endurance Events 2011 Calendar Announced

Looking for a marathon, half marathon, triathlon, cycling event or "Great Race" to support the MMRF?

Registration is now open! For more info visit us [here](#), or [email](#) Endurance Events.

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### MMRF Race for Research Fall Series

Join us for the MMRF Race for Research Fall Series taking place in Washington, D. C. (Nov. 14) or Atlanta (Nov. 20). Register today & start your fundraising now! For more information, [email](#) Laura Higgins.

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## Breaking News

### Help Close Out the 3, 2, 1: Cure Research Campaign

Thanks to your generosity, we have made incredible progress in accelerating drug development for multiple myeloma—having helped bring patients the first generation of life-extending treatments. Now, we need your help to advance a new generation of treatments to the next stage of development. Donate to our 3, 2, 1: Cure research campaign today to ensure that the momentum is not stalled for lack of resources. Read more about our research campaign. [More >](#)

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### MMRF Launches Login-Based Website

As part of our commitment to keep you informed of progress in the development of next-generation multiple myeloma treatments, we have improved our website to include a password-protected login system. You have already received in a separate email, login information that lets you access MyMMRF, where you can view special content not available anywhere else on the MMRF website—including research updates, clinical trials, MMRF Tribute pages and events in your area. Log in today to create or update your Profile. If you need assistance with your login information, please [email](#) [info@themmr.org](mailto:info@themmr.org). [More >](#)

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### Tragara Pharmaceuticals Initiates Phase I Clinical Program for TG02

Tragara Pharmaceuticals, Inc. announced the initiation of a phase I clinical trial of TG02, a unique oral multi-kinase inhibitor, in patients with advanced/refractory hematologic malignancies. The MMRF supported the development of TG02, by granting Tragara a Biotech Investment Award in early 2010. [More >](#)

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### U.S. House of Representatives Declares Blood Cancer Awareness Month

The MMRF supported the U.S. House of Representatives Resolution 1433 to declare September 2010 as Blood Cancer Awareness month. The resolution was sponsored by Representatives Walter Jones (R-NC) and Betsy Markey (D-CO) and passed the House on September 22 by a unanimous voice vote. Read the resolution. [More >](#)

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## Research Updates

### Lenalidomide and high-dose dexamethasone compared with dexamethasone as initial therapy for multiple myeloma: a randomized Southwest Oncology Group trial (S0232). [More >](#)

Zonder JA, Crowley J, Hussein MA, Bolejack V, Moore DF Sr, Whittenberger BF, Abidi MH, Durie BG, Barlogie B.

*Blood*. 2010 Sep 27. [Epub ahead of print]

### Risk factors for, and reversibility of, peripheral neuropathy associated with bortezomib-melphalan-prednisone in newly diagnosed multiple myeloma patients: subanalysis of the phase 3 VISTA study. [More >](#)

Dimopoulos MA, Mateos MV, Richardson PG, Schlag R, Khuageva NK, Shpilberg O, Kropff M, Spicka I, Palumbo A, Wu KL, Esseltine DL, Liu K, Deraedt W, Cakana A, Van De Velde H, San Miguel JF.

*Eur J Haematol*. 2010 Sep 28. doi: 10.1111/j.1600-0609.2010.01533.x. [Epub ahead of print]

### Phase 2 trial of the histone deacetylase inhibitor romidepsin for the treatment of refractory multiple myeloma. [More >](#)

Niesvizky R, Ely S, Mark T, Aggarwal S, Gabrilove JL, Wright JJ, Chen-Kiang S, Sparano JA.

*Cancer*. 2010 Sep 22. [Epub ahead of print]

### Bortezomib Plus Dexamethasone Is Superior to Vincristine Plus Doxorubicin Plus Dexamethasone As Induction Treatment Prior to Autologous Stem-Cell Transplantation in Newly Diagnosed Multiple Myeloma: Results of the IFM 2005-01 Phase III Trial. [More >](#)

Harousseau JL, Attal M, Avet-Loiseau H, Marit G, Caillot D, Mohty M, Lenain P, Hulin C, Facon T, Casassus P, Michallet M, Maisonneuve H, Benboubker L, Maloisel F, Petillon MO, Webb I, Mathiot C, Moreau P.

*J Clin Oncol*. 2010 Sep 7. [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, Haukås E, Hjertner O, Hjorth M, Karlsson T, Knudsen LM, Nielsen JL, Linder O, Mellqvist UH, Nesthus I, Rolke J, Strandberg M, Sørbø JH, Wisløff F, Juliusson G, Turesson I; Nordic Myeloma Study Group.

*Blood*. 2010 Sep 2;116(9):1405-12. Epub 2010 May 6.