The Next Leap Forward

MULTIPLE MYELOMA Research Foundation

HORIZON Clinical Trials Program

Simultaneously Testing Multiple Novel Drug and Therapy Combinations to Improve Outcomes for Myeloma Patients

Pioneering Clinical Trial Design

Traditional clinical trials test one treatment at a time. On average, each trial can take five or more years to complete, and require significant time and resources to launch. To get trial results to the patients and providers who need them faster, the MMRF is implementing HORIZON, a new kind of clinical research trial known as an adaptive platform trial that promises to vastly accelerate the process. Platform trials adhere to all the standards needed to measure safety and efficacy, but they are designed to test multiple therapies simultaneously. This approach will reduce the time needed to evaluate new therapies and get answers to important clinical questions in areas of unmet need.

Addressing Unmet Need

The MMRF currently has two separate adaptive platform trials in development to test therapies in two important patient populations. One will focus on relapsed and refractory multiple myeloma patients, those whose cancer has come back after an initial successful treatment or those who have stopped responding to treatment. The other will include high-risk newly diagnosed patients, those who have a type of multiple myeloma that typically does not respond well to standard therapies. Both of these patient populations have a clinical unmet need that requires dedicated effort.

How Adaptive Platform Trials Work

Each of the platforms described above contains multiple arms, each testing a different therapy. Patients in the control protocol receive a standard treatment that has already been shown, through prior research and clinical experience, to provide good results. The other arms are experimental protocols. Patients in these groups receive a new drug under development, or a new combination or sequence of therapies. The adaptive nature of the platform trial means that new experimental protocols can be added at any time as researchers develop new clinical hypotheses and treatment approaches to test. As we generate data on experimental protocols, we can rapidly expand the patient cohort receiving treatment regimens with positive outcomes, and we can efficiently close experimental protocols with less than optimal outcomes.

Why the MMRF is Uniquely Equipped to Execute This Trial

The MMRF's clinical research network, the Multiple Myeloma Research Consortium® (MMRC), brings together leading cancer centers to accelerate the development of the most promising therapies through Phase 1 and Phase 2 clinical trials. Individual academic medical centers simply do not have the internal infrastructure or patient volume to manage these types of clinical trials on their own. Furthermore, pharmaceutical companies typically focus on the quickest registration path to regulatory approval for their assets rather than on deeper investigations that seek to answer critical patient questions about individual disease progression and personalized treatment options.

Our sites work with a large and diverse community of patients, allowing us to speed enrollment. This capacity is crucial when a clinical trial requires patient populations with specific characteristics like specific genome or immune markers, or a treatment history of exposure to four or more classes of treatment. There is no organization better positioned than the MMRF to focus on innovative clinical trials like the HORIZON Clinical Trials Program that are only possible through larger scale, multi-institutional cooperation.

Support the Cutting Edge of Clinical Trials

Philanthropic support will fuel The Next Leap Forward. Your generous support will help us speed the evaluation of new therapies to extend and improve the lives of myeloma patients. Connect with the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation team directly by contacting Brian Hochberg at **development@themmrf.org** or **203-652-0444**.

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