



“Providing an opportunity for multiple myeloma patients and their loved ones to come together to exchange information for mutual support, comfort, and friendship”

Meeting: **Meetings will resume when we are allowed to gather at the address below.**

451 Junction Road  
Madison, WI  
UW West Clinic Room 1287

Enter the clinic... turn left and walk down a short hall...turn left again and conference room 1287 is the last one on the left.

Group Information:

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Madison Multiple Myeloma Support Group website  
[madisonmultiplemyeloma.org](http://madisonmultiplemyeloma.org)

Mailing Address: Wisconsin Multiple Myeloma Support Group  
3309 Chicago Avenue Madison, WI 53714-1815

Information Sources :

International Myeloma Foundation (IMF)  
Phone: 800 - 452 - 2873  
Email: [TheIMF@myeloma.org](mailto:TheIMF@myeloma.org)  
Website: [www.myeloma.org](http://www.myeloma.org)

Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation(MMRF)  
Phone: 203 - 972 - 1250  
Email: [info@themmrf.org](mailto:info@themmrf.org)  
Website: [www.multiplemyeloma.org](http://www.multiplemyeloma.org)

**Upcoming Meeting Speakers...** Mark your calendars now!

**Dr Aric Hall** will be our featured speaker for the May meeting tentatively.

**Working on getting a speaker from SHIP** (State Health Insurance and Assistance Program) for the August meeting.

**Kelly Sidorowicz, IMF Regional Director Support Groups** will be our featured speaker in September.

**Dr Natalie Callander, UW Carbone Cancer Center** will join us at our October meeting.

**When we need it the most, a group member comes through with words of wisdom.**

**“No Winter lasts forever; no Spring skips its turn.”**

**As quoted by [Hal Borland](#).**

**Make sure you are taking care of yourself. Give yourself permission to be somewhat spoiled!**

**International Myeloma Foundation Announces FDA Approval of Sarclisa (isatuximab-irfc)**

Sarclisa is a monoclonal antibody (mAb) that binds to the CD38 receptor on multiple myeloma cells. It is designed to induce programmed tumor cell death (apoptosis) and immunomodulatory activity. CD38 is highly and uniformly expressed on multiple myeloma cells and cell surface receptors, making it a

potential target for antibody-based therapeutics such as Sarclisa.

Sarclisa has Orphan Drug Designation status from the FDA and the European Medicines Agency (EMA). In the second quarter of 2019, the EMA accepted for review the Marketing Authorization Application for use of Sarclisa in combination with pom-dex for the treatment of certain patients with RRMM. The safety and efficacy of Sarclisa has not been fully evaluated by any regulatory authority outside of the U.S.

Sarclisa continues to be evaluated in multiple ongoing Phase 3 clinical trials in combination with current standard treatments for people with relapsed refractory or newly diagnosed multiple myeloma. It is also under investigation for the treatment of other blood cancer types (hematologic malignancies) and solid tumors.

### **Horizon study results - Melfluten for Refractory Myeloma Treatment**

Melflufen is an anti-myeloma drug that is currently in clinical trials. Dr. Paul Richardson of the Dana Farber Cancer Institute shared an update on the HORIZON study results at the recent International Myeloma Workshop (IMW) conference in Boston. It has been found to be effective for patients who have relapsed after 5 different types of therapy and for patients with extramedullary disease (where myeloma is found outside of the bone marrow). These patients are hard to treat because the myeloma has become more sophisticated, resistant to treatment and has escaped the bone marrow. Melflufen is called a peptidase enhanced cytotoxic (PEnC) that delivers a toxic payload of melphalan in cells that are over-expressed with cancer. Study results showed that the overall response rate was 28% and in extramedullary patients, the overall response rate was 29%. The majority of patients (86%) had their disease stabilize. The treatment was generally well tolerated.

"The number of patients with resistant myeloma characterized by extra-medullary disease and high-risk cytogenetics is increasing, despite recent advances, and there is a real need for additional treatment options based on new mechanisms of action. Melflufen continues to demonstrate promising activity and manageable toxicity in the relapsed and refractory setting, and in particular amongst patients who are triple-class refractory."

According to Dr. Richardson, adding melflufen to additional standard myeloma treatments will be key in future trials.

**IMF Info Line** – If you or someone you care for has Myeloma, you have questions. Probably, lots of them. You can search the Internet all you want, but other than asking your doctor, there is no better way to get your questions answered than to call the IMF Info Line. Missy, Judy and Paul know their stuff and they want to share what they know with you. Just ask anyone who has called the IMF Info Line. Patients or caregivers are welcome to contact the Info Line staffed by trained specialists at 800-452-CURE (800-452-2873). The Info Line is staffed between 9am and 4pm Pacific Time, 11am to 6pm Central time or [infoline@myeloma.org](mailto:infoline@myeloma.org).

The Trillium Fund was established by our founding support group members to facilitate Multiple Myeloma research here in Madison at the Wisconsin Institute of Medical Research. If you or your family wish to donate or send a memorial to this program, checks can be made payable to the "UW Foundation – Trillium Fund" and sent to UW Carbone Cancer Center, University of Wisconsin Foundation, 1848 University Ave, Madison, WI 53726. Donations may also be made online at [www.supportuw.org/give](http://www.supportuw.org/give) (Trillium Fund in Multiple Myeloma Research – 112903576). For any questions, please call Daniel Rosen at (608) 264-5437 or email [curecancer@supportuw.org](mailto:curecancer@supportuw.org).