



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

Group Information:

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Madison Multiple Myeloma Support Group website
madisonmultiplemyeloma.org

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Information Sources :

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

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

HealthTree Foundation
P.O. Box 1286
Draper, UT 84020
www.healthtree.org.

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
(includes Multiple Myeloma)
Contact information 1-800-955-4572
Email www.LLS.org/ContactUs
Live chat www.LLS.org/patient-support

April 2025 Myeloma Newsletter

Upcoming Meeting Speakers

Our new IMF Midwest Regional Director, Jenn Wieworka will join us for the June 17th meeting. More info to follow.

Our group member and HealthTree coach, David Barton is working on a presentation for test and lab results. David will be our guest speaker for the July 17th meeting.

Dr Timothy Schmidt from the UW Carbone Cancer Center will be our featured speaker for the April 15th, 2025 meeting. He will be doing a Q & A session. Start time will likely be 4:30pm CST.

At our last meeting, the subject of **stem cell collection** came up. When stem cell collection becomes a problem, this may be of help to overcome the collection shortages.

What is Aphexda?

Aphexda (motixafortide) is a medication used to increase the number of circulating stem cells before they are collected for a stem cell transplant. Aphexda is called a **hematopoietic stem cell mobilizer** and is used together with filgrastim, which is a G-CSF (granulocyte **colony-stimulating factor**).

Aphexda (motixafortide) works by blocking the receptor CXCR4, which increases stem cells in the circulation, available for collection. Aphexda is from the class of medicines called CXCR4 antagonist.

Aphexda became an FDA-approved medicine on September 11, 2023, to be used in conjunction with **filgrastim** (G-CSF) to mobilize hematopoietic stem cells into the peripheral blood for collection and subsequent autologous transplantation in patients with multiple myeloma. FDA approval was based on positive results from the 2-part, Phase 3 GENESIS trial (NCT 03246529), which was a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study comparing how effective Aphexda plus filgrastim was compared to placebo plus filgrastim.

More information can be found using this link.

<https://www.cancer.gov/news-events/cancer-currents-blog/2023/motixafortide-multiple-myeloma-stem-cell-transplant>

Also at our last meeting, the subject of **“Chemo Brain or Brain Fog”** came up. Included are two articles from past newsletters that are worth repeating.

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 specialist 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.

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 (Trillium Fund in Multiple Myeloma Research – 112903576). For any questions, please call Janie Winston 608-512-6068 or email at Janie.Winston@supportuw.org

Madison MM Support Group is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting April 15, 2025 starting at 3:30pmCST

<https://myeloma-org.zoom.us/j/81745782301?pwd=L2u5V0zAxLuhQtKh2WZZaO3lsvs8N.1>

Meeting ID: 817 4578 2301

Passcode: 636273

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- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
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- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 507 473 4847 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
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- +1 689 278 1000 US
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