



“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:

Jayne Schwartz 608- 244-2120  
[schwartzdon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:schwartzdon@sbcglobal.net)

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)

Myeloma Crowd /Health Tree Foundation  
P.O. Box 1286  
Draper, UT 84020  
[www.myelomacrowd.org](http://www.myelomacrowd.org)

## **November 2021 Myeloma Newsletter**

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

Don't forget about SHIP, your state's resource for information about Medicare and enrollment. They provide education, counseling and enrollment assistance to Medicare beneficiaries. Established in 1992, the program is overseen by the federal Administration for Community Living (ACL) and available in all states and US territories. They do not get commissions or any monetary benefit. This support is funded by your tax dollars.

## A New Type of CAR Multiple Myeloma Therapy: CAR NK Cells

**Posted by Jennifer Ahlstrom October 21, 2021**

Researchers in Spain believe that a new type of CAR therapy using natural killer cells, could be more effective and have fewer side effects in treating blood cancers like multiple myeloma than CAR T cell therapy.

CAR T cell therapy is a growing field of myeloma research, but it can come with significant side effects like cytokine release syndrome (CRS) and neurotoxicities. Researchers are looking for both ways to improve CAR T therapies and to develop new approaches that may be equally good with fewer toxicities.

Spanish researchers of the H12O-CNIO Haematological Malignancies Clinical Research Unit, led by hematologist Joaquín Martínez, found that a similar CAR treatment using natural killer cells (NK cells) instead of T cells was more effective and had fewer side effects in mice with multiple myeloma. Early in-human trials are now planned.

Group member, James passed along some information about a generic Revlimid being available March 2022.

Here is what I found out.

There will be a Lenalidomide REMS generic available on March 3, 2022. Currently the Revlimid REMS has been in use.

### **What does REMS stand for?**

- A Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) is a drug safety program that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) can require for certain medications with serious safety concerns to help ensure the benefits of the medication outweigh its risks.

REMS are designed to help reduce the occurrence and/or severity of certain serious risks, by informing and/or supporting the execution of the safe use conditions described in the medication's FDA-approved prescribing information.

On **May 21, 2021**, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved a generic Lenalidomide product. This approval will trigger the transition of REVLIMID REMS® to the Lenalidomide REMS Shared System approved by FDA in September 2020. Generic Lenalidomide is **not yet** commercially available but will become available through Lenalidomide REMS on **March 03, 2022**.

A transition period is in place for the approved Lenalidomide REMS:

- REVLIMID REMS prescribers and patients will be able to participate in the Lenalidomide REMS without further action. Certified pharmacies will be contacted for training  
You can contact Lenalidomide REMS at **1-888-423-5436** with any questions.

It is not likely that this will cost you less \$\$\$. You will still have your same deductibles, etc but the insurance companies that pay the balance will pay less, says Eric Miller of the UW Specialty Pharmacy.

Our virtual meetings are on the Zoom platform.

Our meeting for November 16, 2021 will be from 4:30pm to 5:30pm There is no scheduled speaker so it will be a sharing meeting for the group.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://myeloma-org.zoom.us/j/84457667535?pwd=V0lJTdNQQU2FOZ1hMUKFaRmJBc0Qzdz09>

Meeting ID: 844 5766 7535

Passcode: 678275

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,84457667535#,,,,\*678275# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,84457667535#,,,,\*678275# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 844 5766 7535

Passcode: 678275

Find your local number: <https://myeloma-org.zoom.us/j/84457667535>

**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).