Myeloma Treatment Phases

**Induction Therapy:** First phase of treatment that is meant to induce remission. The goal of induction therapy is to reduce the number of plasma cells (myeloma cells) in the bone marrow and the proteins that the plasma cells produce.

**Consolidation Therapy:** Treatment given for a short time following induction therapy. The goal of consolidation therapy in myeloma is to further deepen the response to initial treatment.

**Maintenance Therapy:** Refers to treatment given to patients after initial therapy that is meant to maintain a remission or to prevent return of the disease.

Types of Myeloma Therapy

**Bispecific Antibodies:** Antibodies that bind to two different antigens at the same time. These antibodies are being studied in the treatment of cancer.

**CAR (Chimeric Antigen Receptor) T-Cell Therapy:** Treatment in which the T cells (a type of immune system cell) of a patient are laboratory-altered to attack cancer cells in the body.

**Proteasome Inhibitors:** Target cancer cells by blocking the breakdown of proteins by the proteasome. Without functioning proteasomes, proteins build up and kill the myeloma cells.

**Immunomodulatory therapies (iMiDs):** A group of drugs that treat myeloma by modifying the response of the immune system by increasing or decreasing the production of serum antibodies.

**Immunotherapy:** Type of therapy that harnesses one’s own immune system to help the body fight cancer, infection, and other diseases.

**Monoclonal antibodies (mAb):** Proteins made in a laboratory meant to stimulate your immune system to fight a particular disease or infection.

**Stem Cell Transplant:** A procedure, also called a bone marrow transplant, in which healthy blood stem cells are used to replace damaged or diseased bone marrow. This procedure can be used to treat certain types of blood cancers.

Support & Resources

- CancerGRACE
- Cancer Hope Network
- Cancer Support Community (CSC)
- The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS)
- Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation
- Myeloma Crowd
- MyHealthTeam
- Twist Out Cancer

Engaging in Myeloma Treatment Decisions is brought to you by the Patient Empowerment Network. It is supported by Janssen Oncology.