## CLINICAL TRIALS 201 | MYELOMA

Program Resource Guide



## Questions to Ask About Participating in a Clinical Trial How can this treatment help me? What are potential side effects? Have you treated other patients with this therapy? What are the risks compared to the standard of care? What is the commitment from me? Myeloma Clinical Trial Resources ClinicalTrials.gov Myeloma Crowd | myelomacrowd.org The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society | LLS.org SparkCures | sparkcures.com

## **Clinical Trial Phases**

**Phase I:** The goal is to test the safety of the drug, finding the appropriate dose that produces the fewest side effects.

**Phase II:** Further assesses the safety of the drug and the effectiveness of the treatment.

**Phase III:** Compares the efficacy of the new treatment to the standard-of-care treatment.

**Phase IV:** Study that looks at drugs that have already been approved to get additional safety information and to learn more about long-term benefits and side effects.

## **Glossary Terms**

**Aspirate:** Withdrawing fluid, tissue, or other substance from the body for further examination of a disease or condition.

**Bone Marrow Biopsy:** A procedure that involves collecting a small sample of bone marrow, usually from the hip bone, in order to be examined by a laboratory. This procedure is used to confirm an MPN diagnosis and may be used to monitor the disease over time.

**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.

**Informed Consent:** Provides a thorough explanation of the purpose of the research, including the role of the patient and how the trial will work.

**M-Protein (M-Spike):** Abnormal protein secreted by plasma cells that usually indicate disease when found in the blood or urine.

**MRD** (minimal residual disease): Measurement of the number of myeloma cells found in the bone marrow of patients in remission after a clinical response to treatment. MRD is relevant as the residual myeloma cells may indicate progression or relapse.

**Standard of Care:** An established guideline that is consensus among experts as the most appropriate and/or effective treatment for a specific type and stage of cancer.

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