

What is Multiple Myeloma?

- Multiple myeloma is a cancer of plasma cells which attacks and destroys bone.
- In the US there are approximately 100,000 patients and nearly 20,000 new cases diagnosed each year. Despite this fact, there is a lack of public awareness about this disease.
- Multiple myeloma represents 1% of all cancers and accounts for 2% of cancer deaths.
- Although the causes of multiple myeloma are uncertain, certain professions have a higher risk factor. Exposure to pesticides, nuclear radiation, and petrochemicals are considered to be important trigger factors.
- Although there is no known cure, multiple myeloma is treatable and outcomes are constantly improving.

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“Until there is a cure, there is the IMF.”

What is the IMF?

- Established in 1990, the International Myeloma Foundation (IMF) is the oldest and largest foundation focusing specifically on multiple myeloma.
- The IMF is dedicated to improving the quality of life of myeloma patients while working toward prevention and a cure.
- The foundation's focus is to fund research, provide education, lend support, and promote advocacy initiatives that allow collective voices to be heard.
- Leading the world in collaborative research and achieving results, the IMF is proud to work with the International Working Group comprised of leading researchers and scientists from institutions around the world. Additionally, the International Myeloma Forum coordinates collaborative research efforts world-wide. Bank On A Cure® is the IMF's premier research initiative.
- The IMF reaches out to over 165,000 members in 113 countries worldwide. The IMF believes no one should have to face the battle alone. Educational materials are translated into 16 languages, bringing much needed information and hope to tens of thousands of people around the globe.
- The IMF's dedicated and diverse staff provide immediate help with its toll-free hotline. Callers speak with knowledgeable and compassionate trained professionals.
- The IMF is able to achieve its mission thanks to the generous support of private individuals, corporations and foundations.



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