

## How Your Gift to Miles for Myeloma is Used

**Thank you for your gift to Miles for Myeloma!** Your gift will be invested in myeloma research conducted by members of the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center myeloma working group. This team of physicians and scientists works together to develop better treatments for myeloma as well as other plasma cell disorders such as Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia and primary amyloidosis. **Already, the group's preliminary research funded by Miles for Myeloma has resulted in \$3 million in additional research grant funding from outside organizations.** *Your gift helped make this possible!*

The IU team is currently dedicated to conquering myeloma in several ways:

- Providing excellent patient care
- Developing new drugs and establishing systems to test the safety and efficacy of new drugs before they are given to patients
- Developing and enrolling patients in clinical trials
- Studying protein expression in cells to identify new targets for myeloma drugs
- Discovering ways to overcome drug resistance
- Identifying the best treatments for each individual patient
- Seeking to better understand the origins of myeloma in order to develop treatments that kill cancer stem cells, the cells that originate cancer and are the root of relapse

Three new myeloma drugs are currently being tested at the IU Simon Cancer Center:

- A phase II clinical trial is underway to test the efficacy of a drug that acts as a "circuit breaker" inside a myeloma cell and blocks a pathway that promotes cell growth. Currently, this drug is available only to patients at IU and at Harvard University.
- A phase I clinical trial available only at IU is testing another drug that also acts as a "circuit breaker" inside cells. This drug was developed by IU Simon Cancer Center investigators and an Indianapolis biotech company.
- A drug that inhibits blood vessel formation to choke a tumor's blood supply is also being studied in a phase I clinical trial only available at IU.

In the interest of bringing potential new treatments to patients as quickly as possible, **the IU team collaborates with researchers around the world.** In October, Dr. Abonour was invited to join the International Myeloma Foundation's International Myeloma Working Group, a group of myeloma experts working together to determine the best diagnostic and therapeutic tools for myeloma and setting the worldwide standard for care.

Your gift will help improve care for myeloma patients around the globe! Thank you.



**INDIANA UNIVERSITY**

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