

Your Gift Makes A Difference

Thank you for your gift to Miles for Myeloma! Your gift will be invested in myeloma research conducted by members of the IU Simon Cancer Center's 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.

The IU team works in both the laboratory and the clinic to improve myeloma care. Our laboratory work focuses on:

- Discovering new tests to help predict who is at risk of developing bone damage from myeloma
- Understanding the molecular and cellular changes that occur as multiple myeloma develops
- 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
- Developing a laboratory model for myeloma in order to test new drugs in the earliest stages of development
- Discovering ways to overcome drug resistance, which is a major obstacle to curing myeloma

Our clinical work focuses on:

- Providing excellent patient care by identifying the best treatments for each individual patient. We are currently conducting several trials testing new drugs and new combinations of drugs.
- Developing clinical trials to make new drugs available to patients quickly and safely
- Improving the outcome of stem cell transplantation by introducing new drugs during and after the transplant
- Advancing immune therapy techniques that harness the power of the body's own immune system by mobilizing the body's "natural killer cells" to eradicate myeloma cells

In the interest of advancing research as quickly as possible, **the IU team collaborates with researchers around the world.** Rafat Abonour, MD, represents IU's team on 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 everywhere! Thank you.



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