



Decoding Multiple Myeloma

Definition

Multiple Myeloma is a type of cancer that is caused by malignant plasma cells (Myeloma) that proliferate in the bone marrow and produce abnormally high amounts of a special protein (paraprotein).

Incidence:

Based on population based cancer registries, number of myeloma cases are as follows (includes projection)⁽¹⁾.

	Males	Females
2010	9651	4890
2015	12605	5329
2020	15947	5807

Causes:

The exact cause for Multiple Myeloma is still unknown. Possible reasons include weakened immune system, genetic factors and exposure to certain chemicals and radiation. It is likely that Multiple Myeloma develops when a susceptible individual has been exposed to one or more of these factors.

Symptoms:

The most common symptom of Multiple Myeloma is back pain, which is more persistent and more severe than ordinary back pain. Some of the symptoms which may affect people are caused by organs or tissues being damaged. The most important signs and symptoms of tissues being damaged by Multiple Myeloma are often described as CRAB because they are due to too much Calcium in the blood, or Renal (kidney) damage, or Anaemia or Bone damage⁽²⁾.

Treatment:

Treatment is decided as per the severity of the condition in the patient. Various treatment options include chemotherapy, radiation, immunosuppression and surgery. The choices of treatment(s) often include combinations of the above techniques and combinations of chemotherapy drugs. These help decrease the occurrence and severity of symptoms though complete cure might not be possible.

Treatment using cord blood stem cells:

Cord blood stem cells have proven to be extremely powerful in treating Multiple Myeloma. Studies show that the 3 year survival probability in patients who have undergone autologous transplants (own stem cells) is 72% and those who have undergone allogeneic transplants is 52% (stem

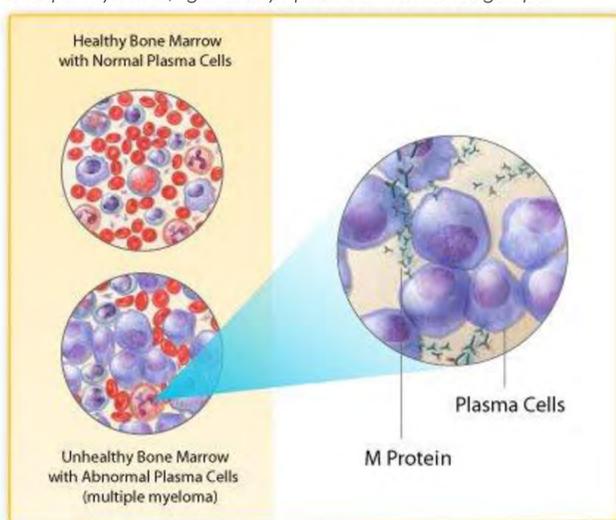
cells from sibling) and 31% (from unrelated donors)⁽³⁾.

In a stem cell transplant procedure, you'll first be given powerful drugs (chemotherapy) with or without radiation therapy to kill the cancer cells. Doctors then infuse into your body healthy stem cells that previously have been collected from you or a donor. The new stem cells migrate to your bone marrow and, over time, produce healthy new cells. In addition, the donor cells also have the ability to kill some types of cancer cells. The healthy cells infused in a stem cell transplant also may allow you to recover faster from chemotherapy and radiation, as these cells haven't been exposed to chemotherapy and radiation⁽⁴⁾.

References:

1) <http://trialx.com/curetalk/2013/03/myeloma-in-india-curetalk-in-conversation-with-dr-lalit-kumar-professor-of-medical-oncology-all-india-institute-of-medical-sciences-aiims-delhi-india/>

2) <https://leukaemialymphomaresearch.org.uk/information/myeloma/multiple-myeloma/signs-and-symptoms#sthash.VuTZrmgu.dpuf>



3) http://www.cibmtr.org/Studies/ClinicalTrials/BMT_CTN/Protocols/Pages/0102.aspx

4) <http://www.mayoclinic.org/tests-procedures/stem-cell-transplant/basics/why-its-done/prc-20013565>

Other Sources:

1) <http://www.myeloma.org.au/MYELOMA/WhatIsMyeloma.aspx>

2) http://www.medicinenet.com/multiple_myeloma/article.htm

3) <https://leukaemialymphomaresearch.org.uk/information/myeloma/multiple-myeloma/signs-and-symptoms>

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BabyCell in the news



CSO, Mr. Satyen Sanghavi on Power Lunch, CNBC-Africa giving an update on global stem cell technology and research.

Kindly find the link to the video:
<http://www.cnbc.com/video/?bctid=3501986667001>

Events



Pregnant mothers across India welcomed the summer season with some cool Mummy & Tummy sessions.



Overwhelming response at our Baroda ANC session.



Residents of Dosti Acres, Mumbai were given a sneak peek into BabyCell's services.