

MM Fighters! Support Group Meeting
November 11, 2023
Virtual Meeting

After a last-minute cancellation due to unexpected conflicts by our scheduled speaker, Tony Blau - Multiple Myeloma Fighter member, Myeloma researcher, medical doctor and founder of All4Cure - leapt into the breach as our speaker. After reviewing his initial journey with Myeloma, Tony introduced his site to our members and then outlined the advances and changes that have been implemented at All4Cure.

Please refer to the email for a link to the video for his presentation.

Thought for the Month

Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.

Something to keep in mind as situations arise....

Patient Roundtable

There are several MM Fighters in or around hospitals for their treatments this month. Please wish them the best!

Kevin and Anne P. – CarT Trial just beginning
Karen B. – Stem Cell Transplant preparation has begun
Nigel and Ann T. – Stem Cell Transplant in second week
Dave M. – Undergoing a pain procedure next month

Eve J. has now joined Erica in the MRD Negative Club! Eve is in her 5th year of treatment, and in celebration is taking a break in treatment. She is enjoying her new life in CO.

Tony B. started a new treatment last month in response to an uptick in his MM numbers. His focus on “squishing” his Myeloma is an unique approach, but so far has resulted in long term MRD Negative status. He was also celebrating the 23rd anniversary of meeting his wife on Saturday!

Willhemina C. joined us from FLA and is doing well. Her Venetoclax treatment was controlling her Myeloma, but the side effects became too much, so she has moved on to a new treatment that is working well. We wish her continued success!

Dave B. just had his 99th Dara infusion! An impressive streak that is still going strong! He also just became a Myeloma Coach with Health Tree.

Mary R. is home after her SCT in Seattle, and she is enjoying the return to her abode immensely. She has faced many challenges - including 5 infections, 18 days in the hospital and taking 30 pills a day - but a great care team, her amazing spirit and wonderful support from friends and family have seen her rally strongly each time.

Jan G. has seen his M Spike continuing to fall, and has found that his beloved black tea does not impact his Myeloma meds, so he has two wonderful reasons to celebrate!

Eric T. just had an MRI to check his Myeloma (he is non-secretory so this is the best way to check his numbers) and is doing well. Still faced with some back issues, but is looking to get these resolved soon.

Laura T. joined us for the first time from the Tri-Cities. She was diagnosed in 2012 and is still going strong!

Linda M. recently had a number of tests, and all results were "between the uprights"! Some great news!

Denny N., a new member to the group, was diagnosed in July and has been challenged a bit with reactions to drugs and two stints with rehab, but has come back strong and is on a treatment that he can tolerate well.

David B., who has missed a few meetings, informed us why....he was diagnosed with Mantle Cell Lymphoma (MCL) 5 months ago! Treatment for MM and MCL are somewhat similar, so hopefully his current drugs for MCL will also hold his MM at bay. He is doing well despite this extra burden.

Kevin P. 's wife Anne joined us from the FHCC where Kevin was undergoing lympho-depleting chemo in preparation for receiving his CarT cells. He has been doing well, so fingers crossed he can keep this streak going through the rest of the procedure.

Chris B. just received his Covid and Flu vaccines after his CarT, so is cleared for his first trip in 4 years!

Sally N., who had to leave the meeting early, is 18 years into her Myeloma journey! Her clinical trail just ended, so she, too, is enjoying a drug holiday. A nice way to enter the holiday season!

Sherry J. has started work 3 months after her SCT and is going strong! Very impressive strength and stamina!

Bud H. has passed his 7th month in remission as a result of his clinical trial at Swedish. Still has some challenges but has seen great progress in many areas.

Robert M. has his MM under control, but anti-biotics from fighting a cold have really messed up his digestive system, putting him in the ER once and giving him occasional pain. But things are under better control now, which is good news with the holidays just around the corner!

Sandy has changed to Kyprolis and has seen great improvements with her anemia, and her M spike is also headed downwards.

Jean has recently had her 65th Dara injection and still responding well. Another impressive streak!

Next MM Fighters! Meetings:

Caregivers Meeting – Saturday, December 2nd – 10 – 11:30 AM Contact mmfighters.caregivers@gmail.com for more information – **Virtual Meeting**

FIRST VIRTUAL MEETING OF 2024 – Saturday, January 27th – Myeloma 101 – All Questions Myeloma – Dr. Libby (!) – UW/FHCC– 10AM – 12:30 PM – **Virtual Meeting**