



International Myeloma Foundation to launch ASCENT trial representing novel and potentially curative approach in partnership with Trevie Research

Los Angeles, CA, December 14, 2017 – The International Myeloma Foundation (IMF), in conjunction with Trevie Research, is set to launch the **ASCENT (Aggressive Smoldering Curative Approach Evaluating Novel Therapies) Trial**: A Phase 2 trial of induction, consolidation and maintenance in patients with high-risk smoldering multiple myeloma (SMM).

The ASCENT trial, headed by Brian Durie, M.D. of the IMF and Shaji Kumar, M.D. of the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, is the first therapy to use a combination of carfilzomib, lenalidomide, dexamethasone and daratumumab in an attempt to cure patients with high-risk smoldering multiple myeloma (SMM) before the disease progresses to active multiple myeloma. The presence of this precursor phase of SMM, and the ability to identify those with the highest risk of progression, sets the stage for a potentially curative disease intervention. This trial will be initiated at 12 IMF Consortium sites with world-renowned multiple myeloma programs and leading principal investigators.

“One of the advantages, so to speak, of myeloma is that patients usually have 10-15 years of monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS), and then there is smoldering myeloma. So, it gives us the opportunity early on, before they have symptomatic myeloma, to actually change the history of the disease and maybe even cure it.” - Shaji Kumar, M.D.

The trial design outlines two years of treatment and maintenance cycles with the goal of achieving statistically significant overall survival, progression free survival, and persistent minimal residual disease (MRD) negativity at two years following the completion of treatment.

ASCENT trial support is provided by: Amgen, Celgene, and Janssen/J&J.

ABOUT INTERNATIONAL MYELOMA FOUNDATION (IMF):

Founded in 1990, the U.S.-based International Myeloma Foundation (IMF) is the first and largest myeloma-specific non-profit organization in the world. With more than 350,000 members in 140 countries, the IMF serves myeloma patients, family members, and the medical community. The IMF provides a wide range of programs in the areas of Research, Education, Support, and Advocacy.

ABOUT TREVIE RESEARCH:

Trevie Research is an oncology-focused trial management and clinical development advisory firm. With significant experience in biopharma commercial development, trial analysis, and operations, as well as strong relationships with leading oncology KOLs and academia. Trevie partners with biotech, pharmaceutical, and non-profit organizations focused on Phase I/II drug development programs.

For additional information, please contact Robert Wittig at rwittig@trevieresearch.com