
Newsletter

August 2016



Myeloma Alberta
Support Society

AUGUST 6TH MEETING

The August meeting is a Pizza Party. Note the time: 1:00 – 4:00 pm. The pizza party will be held at Londondale Capital Pizza, 7640-144 Avenue, Edmonton. This is a great opportunity to socialize with MASS members and meet new friends. Everyone is responsible for their own bill. Please RSVP by August 1st to newsevents@multiplemyeloma.ca



Thanks to Jane and Bruce Hettinger for organizing a wonderful picnic for the July support meeting. About 20 members participated in the potluck and enjoyed some tasty picnic treats, great company and a bit of sunshine.

FACING MYELOMA TOGETHER EDUCATION CONFERENCE October 29 & 30 2016

The conference will be held in Edmonton and will feature presentations from our doctors at the CCI and other speakers with topics including nutrition, understanding blood work reports, caregiver support, laughter therapy, and the latest research in myeloma treatment. The conference schedule and registration will be available soon. Check the MASS website for updates.

MULTIPLE MILES FOR MYELOMA 2016 SUCCESS!!!!

Multiple Miles for Myeloma 2016 was a **huge success** and continued to build on the past experiences and experiment with new ideas. Everyone should be very proud and pleased with the results. The sun was shining and there was happiness and laughter everywhere.

THANK YOU to everyone involved: the committee, the volunteers, and the 250 people who participated and those who made donations in support of the walkers/runners.

At the last count on July 16th, over \$90,000 was raised, which included about \$26,000 from DES Engineering. Money is still coming in through paypal!! So if you wanted to donate but did not get a chance, just go to www.multiplemyeloma.ca and click on donate and indicate who you are supporting, a tax receipt will be issued.

Myeloma Alberta Support Society has now contributed over \$700,000 to Myeloma Research at the University of Alberta and the Cross Cancer Institute thanks to your support.

Pictures will be posted soon on the MASS website. If you have pictures you would like to contribute and post please email them to barry_olson@hotmail.com

Mark your calendars; July 2017 will be the 8th annual Multiple Miles for Myeloma.

DARZALEX™ (daratumumab) Approved by Health Canada as the First Human Anti-CD38 Monoclonal Antibody for the Treatment of Multiple Myeloma

On June 30, 2016, Janssen Inc. announced Health Canada has issued a Notice of Compliance with Conditions (NOC/c) approving DARZALEX™ (daratumumab) for the treatment of patients with multiple myeloma who have received at least three prior lines of therapy including a proteasome inhibitor (PI) and an immunomodulatory agent (IMiD), or who are refractory to both a PI and an IMiD. Health Canada approved this product on the condition that Janssen Inc. carries out confirmatory trials to verify the clinical benefit of DARZALEX™.

The NOC/c policy provides access to promising new drugs for patients suffering from serious, life-threatening or severely debilitating diseases, or conditions for which no drug is currently marketed in Canada, or for which a significant increase in efficacy or significant decrease in risk is demonstrated in relation to existing drugs marketed in Canada. The DARZALEX™ approval with conditions was based on the primary efficacy endpoint of overall response rate demonstrated in the Phase 2 single-arm SIRIUS study. The data showed DARZALEX™ demonstrated a 29 per cent overall response rate and a tolerable safety profile in these heavily pre-treated patients. The approval was also supported by data from other studies, including the multi-centre, two-part open-label Phase 1/2 GEN501 monotherapy study. The study showed DARZALEX™ demonstrated a tolerable

safety profile and a 36 per cent overall response rate in patients treated with a 16 mg/kg dose, with responses deepening over time.

More details: <http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/darzalex-daratumumab-approved-by-health-canada-as-the-first-human-anti-cd38-mono-clonal-antibody-for-the-treatment-of-multiple-myeloma-585007891.html>

**MYELOMA AWARENESS DAY
November 8, 2016**

Myeloma Canada, Southern Alberta Myeloma Patient Support (SAMPS) and MASS will be holding a Myeloma Awareness Day at the Alberta Legislature on November 8th. Details will be available at the end of September. Mark your calendars and watch the MASS website for updates.

**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS
IMPORTANT
DATES**



Aug 6	Pizza Party 1:00 – 4:00 pm Londondale Capital Pizza 7640-144 Avenue, Edmonton
Sept 3	Support Meeting* Murray Paszko – Estate Planning
Oct 1	Support Meeting* Open Forum
Oct 29&30	Facing Myeloma Together - Education Conference
Nov 8	Myeloma Awareness Day Alberta Legislature
Dec 3	Support Meeting* Christmas Potluck

*Support Meetings held at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, 11223-51 Avenue, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon.