



Connecting Patients and Families with News and Expert Opinion



Join Us in Jacksonville This Weekend!

AAMDSIF Bone Marrow Failure Disease
Patient & Family Conference in Jacksonville, Florida
Saturday, November 16, 2019
7:30am - 12:30pm ET



AAMDSIF is pleased to host our next Patient & Family Conference in Jacksonville, Florida on Saturday, November 16, 2019 from 7:30am - 12:30pm ET in partnership with the faculty and staff of the Mayo Clinic Jacksonville. Our faculty director is [James M. Foran, MD, FRCPC](#). The Patient & Family Conference will be held concurrently with the [2019 Bone Marrow Failure and Myeloid Neoplasia Symposium: Advances in Diagnosis and Treatment](#) for health care professionals.

The [Patient & Family Conference](#) is **FREE** to attend and includes sessions on:

- The Latest in Aplastic Anemia: Managing Your Disease and New Research
- Living with MDS: Understanding Your Treatment Options
- The Latest in PNH: New Treatment Options and Dealing with Side Effects
- AML: What and If a Transplant is an Option
- Bone Marrow Transplantation and Risks

AAMDSIF events are open to patients, their families, loved ones, friends and caregivers as well as local health professionals. We'll provide a tasty breakfast with vegetarian and gluten-free options. Please let

us know about your dietary restrictions on your registration form.

If you have questions about the Conference or would like help with registration, please call us at (800) 747-2820 or send an email to help@aamds.org.

To Attend in Person, [REGISTER HERE](#)

To Participate via Facebook Live, [REGISTER HERE](#)



AAMDSIF and Mayo Clinic Jacksonville Jointly Present

2019 Bone Marrow Failure and Myeloid Neoplasia Symposia: Advances in Diagnosis and Treatment
Saturday, November 16, 2019
8:00am - 2:30pm ET

In joint sponsorship with the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center in Jacksonville, FL, the AAMDSIF Bone Marrow Failure and Myeloid Neoplasia Symposium will provide updates on the most recent research related to the biology, diagnosis and clinical management of bone marrow failure diseases, including myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS), aplastic anemia, paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH), acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPN). The overall goal of this accredited continuing education symposium is to facilitate the translation of research findings into clinical practice and to improve the care of these patient populations.

Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent for their participation in the activity.

Local health care professionals are encouraged to attend in-person. Live broadcasting is available. Pre-registration is required. [REGISTER HERE](#).



Clinical Management of Myeloid Malignancies: The Coming of Age of Targeted Therapies

CME-certified Satellite Lunch Symposium, preceding the 61st ASH Annual Meeting

Friday, December 6, 2019 – 12:00 – 4:00 pm
Orange County Convention Center – Room W308, Orlando, FL

AAMDSIF and Cleveland Clinic Host Satellite Lunch Symposium at the 61st Annual American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida!

Plan to attend the complimentary lunch symposium that provides an in-depth and up-to-date review of research related to the biology, prognosis, natural history, and therapeutic and therapeutic management of patients with MDS, AML, myeloid malignancies, aplastic anemia, and other bone marrow failure entities. The overall goal of the program is to bring together leaders in disease research and clinical practice to explore solutions to improve the care of these patient populations. Registration is available [online](#).



New Clinical Trial Opportunity for MDS, AML and other Leukemia Patients

Gamida Cell NiCord® Clinical Trial enrollment is open!

This is an open-label, controlled, multi-center, international, Phase III randomized study comparing the transplantation of Omidubicel/ NiCord® to transplantation of one or two unmanipulated, unrelated cord blood units in patients with hematological malignancies for whom allogeneic SCT is currently a recommended and potentially lifesaving treatment (all with required disease features rendering them eligible for allogeneic transplantation).

This trial is open to patients between the ages of 12 - 65. More information about the trial can be found on the AAMDSIF [website](#).



A Little History: Meet Ivan Fisher

A Family Tragedy Inspires Hope, Research

In 1983, Bart Fisher's seven year old son, Ivan, was diagnosed with Aplastic Anemia. At the time, little was known about treating this or any other kind of bone marrow failure disease. Ivan was treated at the Johns Hopkins University Hospital, but lost his battle just over three months after his diagnosis, when he was eight years old. Shortly thereafter, his parents, Bart and Margaret Fisher established what

is now the Aplastic Anemia & MDS International Foundation (AAMDSIF) in 1984.

There have been many advances in medicine since 1984. However, bone marrow failure is still often fatal, and we are still searching for better treatments and a cure. We need your support in this – support that will enable us to expand and strengthen our efforts to promote awareness and provide information about these diseases and research on aplastic anemia, MDS, and PNH, and to continue.

With your help, we can bring hope to patients and families diagnosed with bone marrow failure diseases. You can make an [online donation](#), send a check to AAMDSIF, 4330 East West Highway, Suite 230, Bethesda, Maryland, 20814 or make a donation over the phone by calling (301) 279-7202 x103.



AAMDSIF: Investing in Research

Patient and family support makes a difference!

One of the first AAMDSIF research grant recipients was [Dr. Leslie Biesecker](#), now a National Institutes of Health Distinguished Investigator in the Medical Genomics and Metabolic Genetics Branch. When he received our grant early in 1992, Dr. Biesecker said “it helped my career enormously - this funding was the foundation for my transition from a clinician to a researcher. It opened doors for me and supported me at this critical career transition.” He is currently collaborating with Dr. Neal Young of NHLBI (and a member of the AAMDSIF Medical Advisory Board) on clonal hematopoiesis, *“demonstrating that my early career support from AAMDSIF has circled back and what I learned in that work can now benefit individuals who suffer from related bone marrow failure diseases.”*

Dr. Biesecker is especially grateful that the AAMDSIF grant funds were raised by patients, families and communities:

“This kind of support is definitely ‘high risk’ from the view of the funders – the families. One can have no guarantees that any single grant will directly lead to the desired outcome. Yet it is essentially certain that this money is going to individuals who will be having a major effect on research and that it will ‘kick start’ careers of people who will do essential work to treat and cure disease. Your families should be extremely proud that they are a critical part of the progress that is being made and that I am grateful and the individuals in my research studies are incredibly

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grateful for that support."

If you would like to learn more about becoming a partner in funding research through AAMDSIF, please contact Julie Lowe at lowe@aamds.org or by calling (301) 279-7202 ext. 103



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