2021 PRESS BRIEFING HIGHLIGHTS 63rd ASH Annual Meeting & Exposition



# POTENTIAL PREVENTION OR PROTECTION? NEW INSIGHTS INTO BLOOD DISORDERS

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Each of these studies is compelling in its own way. The first presents a strong case for screening people at high risk for multiple myeloma. In the second study, the possible association with Alzheimer's disease is intriguing. The third study offers a new approach that could lighten the burden of beta thalassemia."

JOSEPH MIKHAEL, MD Translational Genomics Research Institute

## ABSTRACT 152 (GHOBRIAL) Older Adults at High Risk for Multiple Myeloma Precursor Condition May Benefit from Screening

When the capability of a novel, high sensitivity screening technique (mass spectrometry) is fully employed, the M-protein can be detected in 42% of the high-risk population over age 50.

> PREVIOUS ESTIMATE OF AMERICANS AGES 50+ WHO HAVE MGUS

**14%** DETECTION OF MGUS USING A HIGH-SENSITIVITY SCREENING TECHNIQUE CALLED MASS SPECTROMETRY

42% DETECTION OF MINUTE AMOUNTS OF M-PROTEIN IN HIGH-RISK POPULATION OVER AGE 50

ABSTRACT 5 (JAISWAL) **Mutations that Heighten the Risk for Blood Cancers and Heart Disease Are Associated with Lower Odds of Alzheimer's Disease** 

Mutations in certain genes that cause blood-forming stem cells to accumulate unchecked are known collectively as **clonal hematopoiesis of indeterminate potential (CHIP) and are increasingly common with aging.** 



3%

# Patients with the CHIP mutation were found to have a **35% to 40%** REDUCED RISK FOR ALZHEIMER'S\*

\*This is an association and does not address causality

## ABSTRACT 573 (THOMPSON) **Patients with Beta Thalassemia Major Achieve Transfusion Independence After Gene Therapy**

People who had previously been dependent on regular blood transfusions to stay alive were able to **go for a median of 32 months without a transfusion after receiving gene therapy.** 







#### **BEFORE TREATMENT**

### **REGULAR BLOOD TRANSFUSION**

