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.”

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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.

3% 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.

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.