

MMRC joins UK biotech in start of multiple myeloma trial

Mass High Tech: The Journal of New England Technology

A Phase 2 clinical trial of a treatment for relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma has launched, led by U.K.-based Astex Therapeutics Ltd. and funded by Norwalk, Conn.-based Multiple Myeloma Research Consortium (MMRC). Noopur Raje, of the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, is named as principal investigator of the trial.

The trial will test the cyclin-dependent kinase (CDK) inhibitor, AT7519, alone and combined with bortezomib (Velcade).

MMRC funded the drug development through its affiliate organization, the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation (MMRF), and its Biotech Investment Award program. MMRF is the leading private funder of multiple myeloma research worldwide.

Founded in 2004, the MMRC has pushed numerous drug candidates through clinical trials to treat multiple myeloma research, including its January 2009 [trial of Zolinza](#) [1] from Merck & Co. and a 2008 [study of a four-drug combination](#) [2] of Revlimid, Velcade for injection, Doxil and dexamethasone.

[SOURCE](#) [3]

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http://www.mdtmag.com/news/2010/08/mmrc-joins-uk-biotech-start-multiple-myeloma-trial?qt-most_popular=0

Links:

[1] <http://www.masshightech.com/stories/2009/01/19/daily6-MMRC-begins-two-drug-multiple-myeloma-treatment-trials.html>

[2] <http://www.masshightech.com/stories/2008/08/11/daily32-MMRC-conducts-study-of-four-drug-combo-on-multiple-myeloma.html>

[3] <http://www.masshightech.com/stories/2010/08/09/daily44-MMRC-joins-UK-biotech-in-start-of-multiple-myeloma-trial.html>