Studies Investigate New Methodologies to Improve Recovery and Survival Strategies for Patients Undergoing Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation

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SAN DIEGO, Dec. 10, 2011 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT), the transplantation of blood-forming stem cells from the bone marrow, peripheral blood, or umbilical cord blood, is the primary option for treatment for many patients who suffer from various hematologic disorders, including blood cancers, sickle cell disease, bone marrow deficiencies, bleeding disorders, and autoimmune disorders. Research investigating breakthroughs in hematopoietic cell transplantation will be presented today at the 53rd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Hematology.

"The studies that will be presented today demonstrate the major advances underway in the field of hematopoietic cell transplantation," said Stephanie J. Lee, MD, MPH, moderator of the press conference and Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle. "Although hematopoietic cell transplantation is considered a standard approach for treating blood disorders, there are still many complications involved, underscoring the continual need for novel research that can improve survival rates and quality of life for patients who undergo these procedures."

This press conference will take place on Saturday, December 10, at 11:00 a.m. PST.

Increased Incidence of Chronic Graft-Versus-Host Disease (GVHD) and No Survival Advantage with Filgrastim-Mobilized Peripheral Blood Stem Cells (PBSC) Compared to Bone Marrow (BM) Transplants From Unrelated Donors: Results of Blood and Marrow Transplant Clinical Trials Network (BMT CTN) Protocol 0201, a Phase III, Prospective, Randomized Trial
[Abstract 1 [1]]

A new study reveals that peripheral blood stem cell (PBSC) transplants from unrelated donors are associated with higher rates of chronic graft-versus-host-disease (GVHD) and have no survival advantage when compared to transplants using stem c
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