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Research findings from Baskent University, Medical Department update  
understanding of myeloma  
[Blood Weekly]

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2007 AUG 23 - (NewsRx.com) -- "Autologous stem cell transplantation is the current standard approach for patients with multiple myeloma and relapsed or refractory lymphoma. Nonmyeloablative allogeneic stem cell transplantation has been applied worldwide," scientists writing in the journal *Transplantation Proceedings* report.

"We analyzed the results of transplantation activity from 2004 to 2006. Seven evaluable patients younger than 65 years old with stage II/III multiple myeloma were treated with high-dose melphalan therapy (140 mg/m<sup>2</sup>) plus autologous peripheral blood stem cell transplantation. Complete responses or tumor reductions of more than 75% were obtained in all patients. At a median follow-up of 10 months, all patients remained disease-free. Four patients with acute myeloblastic leukemia underwent nonmyeloablative allogeneic peripheral stem cell transplantation. Their median age was 30 years. One patient was refractory and the others were in hematological remission. The patients received fludarabine-based preparative regimens. All patients received fully matched blood from a related donor 2 days after chemotherapy in conjunction with graft-versus-host disease prophylaxis. One refractory patient with > 90% engraftment had late autologous reconstitution at 3 months with evidence of relapse. All other patients in remission remained with >90% donor cell engraftment. These patients are disease-free at 13, 10, and 2 months. Toxicity was minimal," wrote H. Ozdogu and colleagues, Baskent University, Medical Department.

The researchers concluded: "These results showed promise due to the minimal toxicity observed with the conditioning regimens which indicated the feasibility of these procedures."

Ozdogu and colleagues published their study in *Transplantation Proceedings* (The first 2 years of clinical experience with peripheral blood stem cell transplantation for various hematological malignancies: Results from a single Baskent University center. *Transplantation Proceedings*, 2007;39(4):1257-1260).

Additional information can be obtained by contacting H. Ozdogu, Baskent University, Hospital Yuregir, Faculty Medical, Dept. of Hematology, TR-01250 Adana, Turkey.

The publisher of the journal *Transplantation Proceedings* can be contacted at:  
Elsevier Science Inc., 360 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010-1710, USA.

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