

**MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Public Health**

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Robert Oldham, M.D., M.S.H.A., Public Health Officer
DATE: March 24, 2015
SUBJECT: A Proclamation Proclaiming March 2015 as Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month in Placer County

ACTION REQUESTED:

1. Approve a Proclamation Proclaiming March 2015 as Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month in Placer County.

BACKGROUND:

Multiple Myeloma is a cancer of plasma cells (white blood cells that produce antibodies) in the bone marrow. The malignant plasma cells or myeloma cells accumulate in the bone marrow where they interfere with the production of normal blood cells. The major features of myeloma result from the abnormal accumulation of myeloma cells within the bone marrow causing:

- Disruption of normal bone marrow function reflected by anemia and /or low white counts or platelet counts
- Destruction and invasion of bone surrounding the bone marrow cavity
- Production and release of monoclonal protein (M-Protein or M-Spike) from the myeloma cells into the blood stream and /or into the urine
- Reduction of normal immune function reflected by reduced levels of normal immunoglobulins and increased susceptibility to infection. Infection is also more likely if the white blood cell count is low.

Multiple Myeloma is now considered a chronic disease that is treatable with chemotherapy, steroids, and radiation. The disease is diagnosed with blood test, bone marrow biopsy, x-rays, MRI, and PET scans.

Multiple Myeloma accounts for about one percent of all cancers. It is more common in men than women and is twice as common in African-Americans as it is in European-Americans. Median survival may be extended to 5-7 years or longer with advanced treatments. New treatments are in clinical trials and may push the median survival rate even higher.

We are requesting the Board to proclaim March 2015 as Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month in Placer County, in order to help raise awareness for the needs of the myeloma community, foster collaborative research, empower people through education, and provide support for patients and families impacted by multiple myeloma.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

**In the matter of a Proclamation
Recognizing March 2015 as "Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month" in Placer
County**

WHEREAS, multiple myeloma is a cancer of plasma cells (white blood cells that produce antibodies) in the bone marrow, where the malignant plasma cells (or myeloma cells) accumulate in the bone marrow and interfere with the production of normal blood cells, and

WHEREAS, the major features of multiple myeloma result from the abnormal accumulation of myeloma cells within the bone marrow causing: disruption of normal bone marrow function; destruction and invasion of bone surrounding the bone marrow cavity; production and release of monoclonal protein from the myeloma cells into the blood stream and /or into the urine; reduction of normal immune function reflected by reduced levels of normal immunoglobulins and increased susceptibility to infection; and increased infection risk if the white blood cell count is low, and

WHEREAS, multiple myeloma is now considered a chronic disease by many doctors that is treatable with chemotherapy, steroids, and radiation, and

WHEREAS, multiple myeloma accounts for one percent of all cancers. It is more common in men than women and is twice as common in African-Americans as it is in European-Americans, and

WHEREAS, median survival from multiple myeloma may be extended to 5-7 years or longer with advanced treatments. New treatments are in clinical trials and may push the median survival rate even higher, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT the Placer County Board of Supervisors hereby designates March 2015 as Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month.

Kirk Uhler Supervisor, District 4
Chairperson 2015

Jack Duran
Supervisor, District 1
Jim Holmes
Supervisor, District 3

Robert M. Weygandt
Supervisor, District 2
Jennifer Montgomery
Supervisor, District 5