



Can MRD Testing Be Done From Peripheral Blood?

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Andrew Schorr:

So, we're going to start getting a lot of questions. Just so I understand, so the MRD testing today is only from the bone marrow, or can it be done from the peripheral blood, too, Doctor?

Dr. Manasanch:

That's a great question. Right now, it's only from the bone marrow.

Andrew Schorr:

Okay. But that may change.

Dr. Manasanch:

That may change. We, actually, have a study here at MD Anderson that I hope is going to be starting by the end of the year, which is going to be looking at something called the single cell assay, looking at, basically, each myeloma cell in the blood and doing very complete analysis, anomic analysis, something called proteomic analysis, looking at how the different cells are a little bit different. I think that, in the future, we probably will be able to do a blood test. We are not close to it yet. So, I don't think, as I tell you, MRD, FDA approval for regulatory trials, I think, it will be soon.

MRD testing, for the treatment decisions, soon, sooner rather than later. Maybe a test in the blood, maybe not so soon. So, maybe a few years.

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