### Case presentation

• A 67-year-old woman presents with acute severe back pain. She is

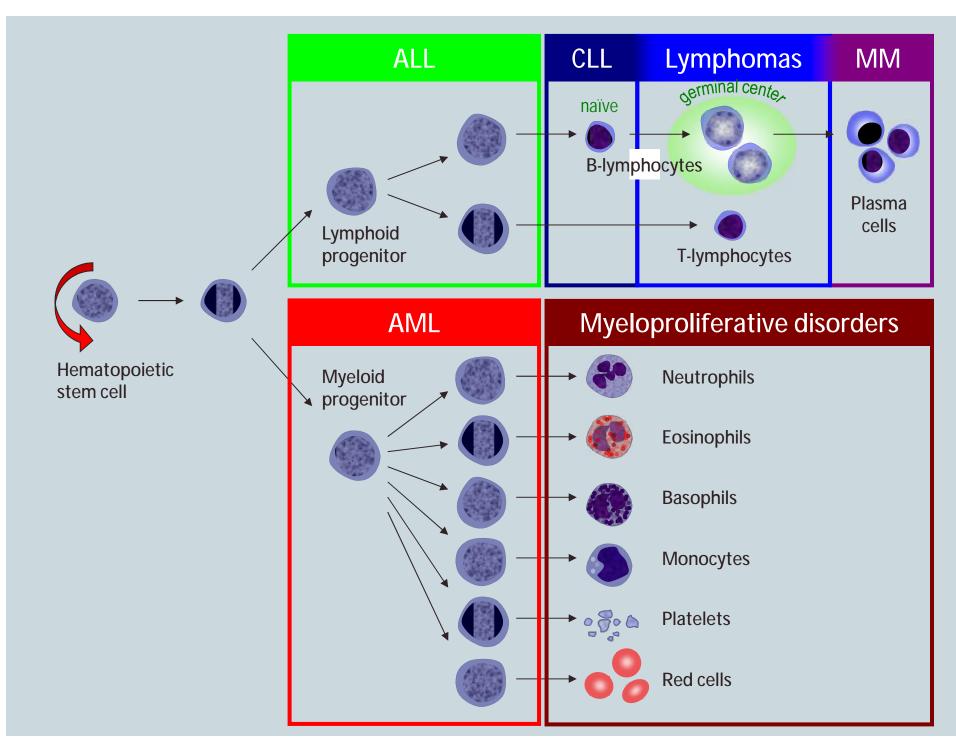
normally fit and well, but there is a past history of osteoporosis.

- Hb 10.6 g/dl
- Calcium 2.9 mmol/l
- Alkaline phosphatase 126 iu/l
- Total protein 76g/l
- albumin 30g/l
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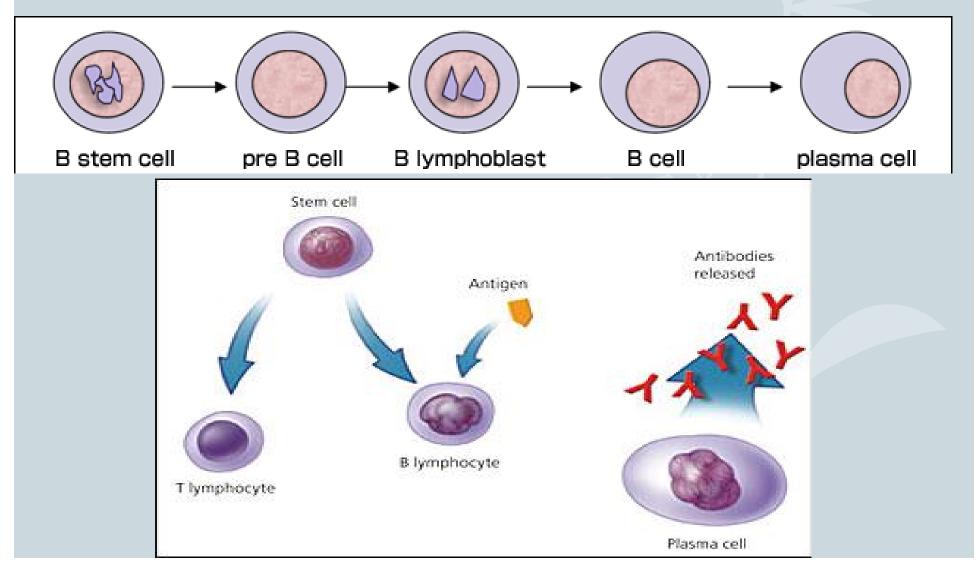


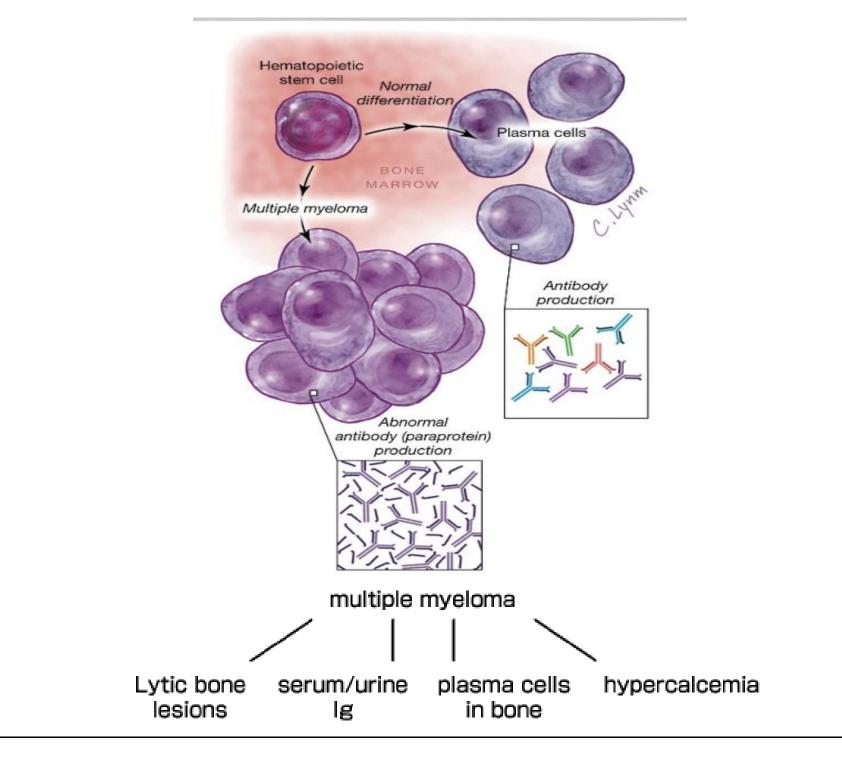
## PLASMA CELL DYSCRASIA Multiple myeloma



## Introduction

• Mature B lymphocytes destined to produce immunoglobulin.





## Multiple myeloma (MM)

- It is characterized by the proliferation of a single clone of plasma cells that produce a monoclonal protein (cancer of plasma cells).
- The plasma cell proliferation results in extensive skeletal involvement, with osteolytic lesions, hypercalcaemia, anaemia and/or soft tissue plasmacytomas.

The excessive production of nephrotoxic monoclonal

immunoglobulin can result in <u>renal failure</u> and an increased

risk of developing potentially life - threatening infections due

to the lack of functional immunoglobulins.

## Epidemiology

• Myeloma increases in incidence with age.

- The median age 60-70 years.
- Males > females.
- It about 1% of all malignant diseases and 15% of all

haematological malignancies.

### **Clinical Manifestations**

- Overproliferation of plasma cells can cause:
  - Risk of infection
  - Osteolytic bone lesions
  - Hypercalcemia
  - Bone marrow suppression (pancytopenia)
  - Renal complication risk
- Production of monoclonal M proteins causes:
  - Decreased levels of normal immunoglobulins
  - Hyperviscosity

• Bone pain is the most common symptom (70% of patients).

ü Worse at night

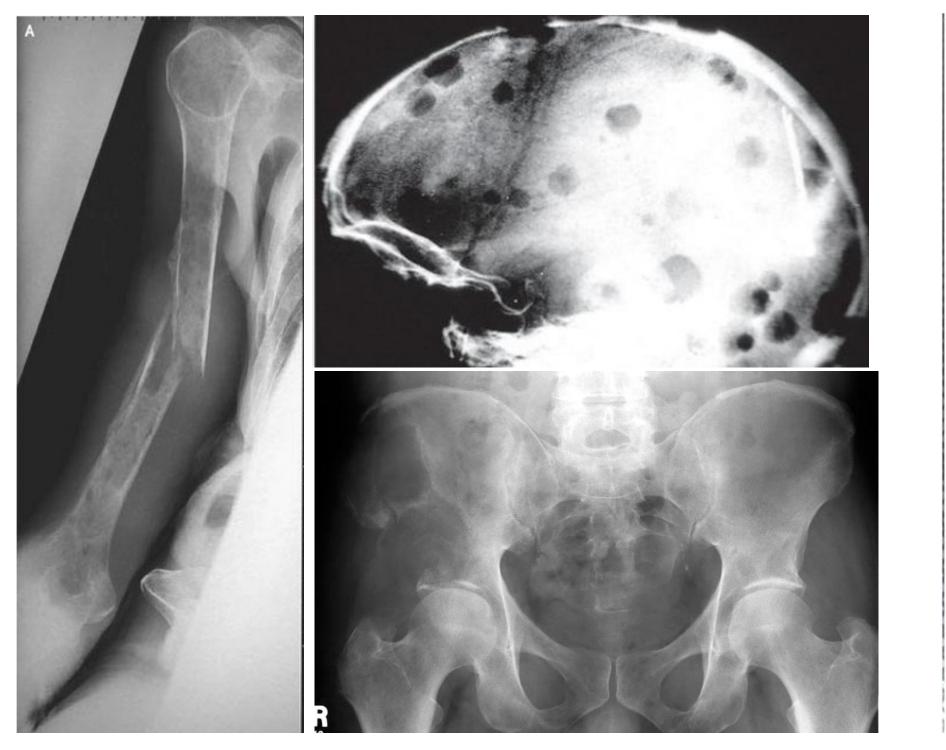
ü Precipitated by movement.

The next most common clinical problem

in patients with myeloma is

susceptibility to bacterial infections.





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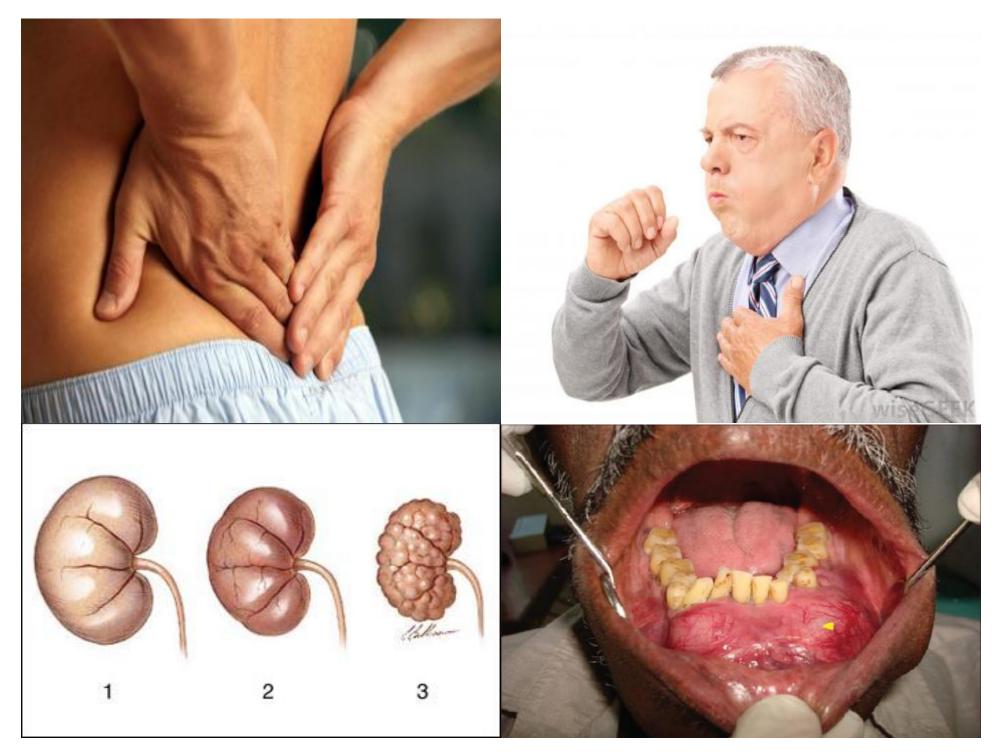
- <u>Renal failure occurs in nearly 25% of myeloma patients. Due to:</u>
  - ✓ Hypercalcemia is the most common cause of renal failure.
  - ✓ Glomerular deposits of amyloid,
  - **v** Hyperuricemia,
  - **v** Recurrent infections,
  - ✓ Drugs: such as NSAIDs for pain control.
  - ✓ Occasional infiltration of the kidney by myeloma cells.

- Neurologic symptoms (minority of patients), due to.
  - ü Hypercalcemia may produce lethargy, weakness, depression, and confusion.
  - ü Hyperviscosity may lead to headache, fatigue, visual disturbances, and retinopathy.
  - ü Bony damage and collapse may lead to cord compression, radicular pain, and loss of bowel and bladder control.
  - ü Infiltration of peripheral nerves by amyloid.

- Anemia: produces weakness and fatigue.
- Hyperviscosity: generalized malaise, fever, paresthesia,
  - sluggish mentation, epistaxis and sensory loss. Patients may
  - report headaches and somnolence, and they may bruise

easily and have hazy vision.

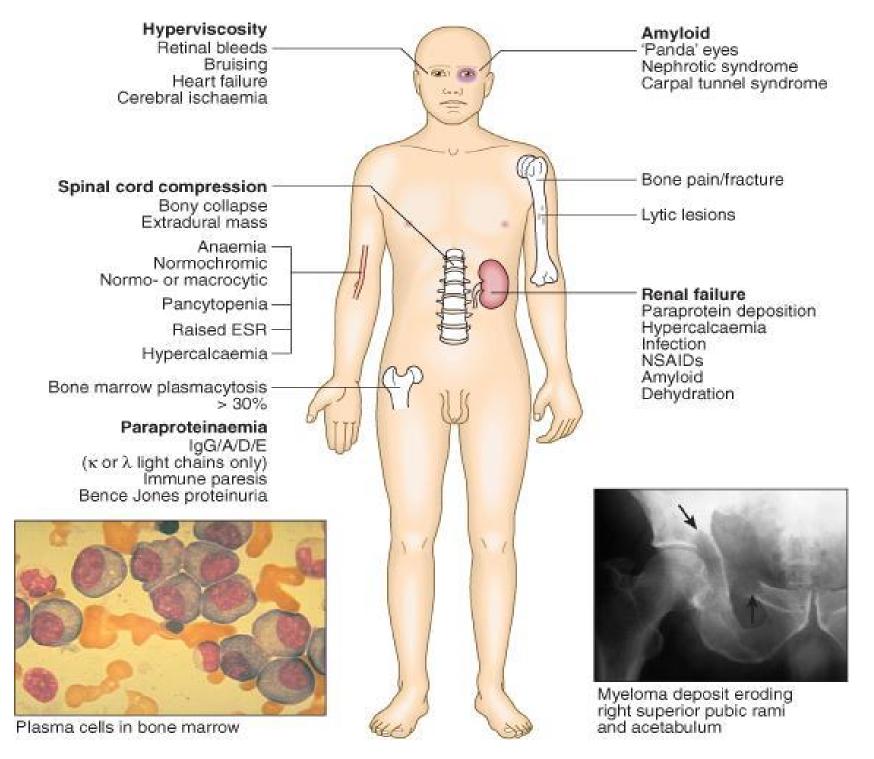
• Deep venous thrombosis.



# Signs

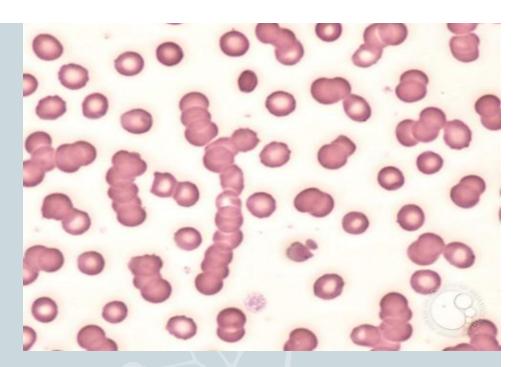
- Pallor from anemia.
- Ecchymoses or purpura from thrombocytopenia.
- Bony tenderness.
- Neurologic findings may include a sensory level change, neuropathy, and myopathy.
- Extramedullary plasmacytomas, which consist of soft-tissue masses of plasma cells.
- Cardiomegaly, Hepatomegaly, splenomegaly, lymphadenopathy secondary to immunoglobulin deposition.

- A 65 year old man complains of bone pain especially in his spine. X-ray revealed lytic lesions in the vertebrae and skull. He also had anemia and hypercalcaemia. Which of the following is least likely to be present in this patient:
- 1. Bence Jones proteins
- 2. Decreased resistance to infection
- 3. Infiltration of flat bones by plasma cells
- 4. Macroglobulinemia
- 5. Monoclonal gammopathy



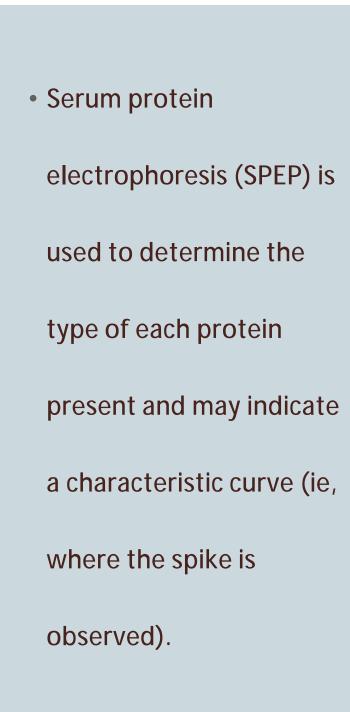
# Investigation

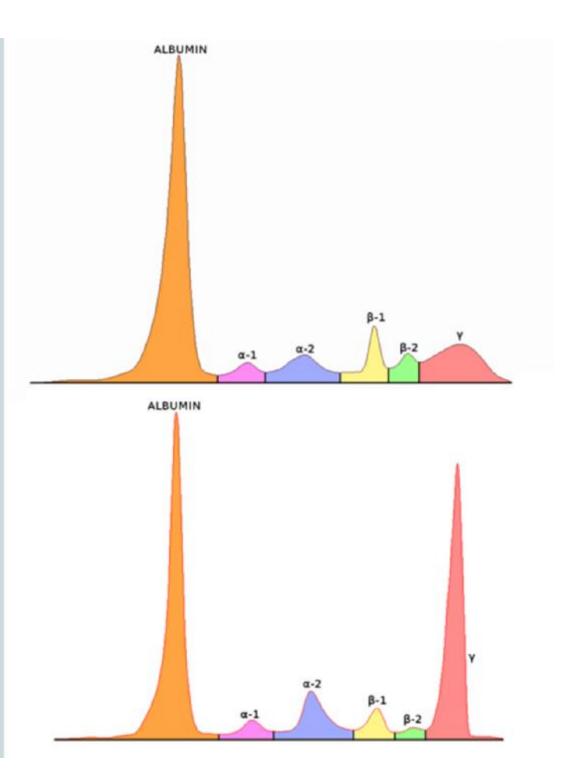
• Complete blood count (CBC):



- ü Anemia, thrombocytopenia, or leukopenia.
- ü An increased erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR).
- ü Rouleau formation.
- Metabolic Panel: RFT, LFT (Plasma alkaline phosphatase is normal in

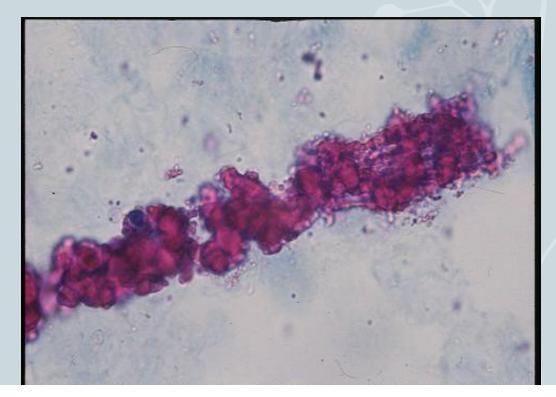
the absence of fractures or bone repair), calcium, and uric acid.





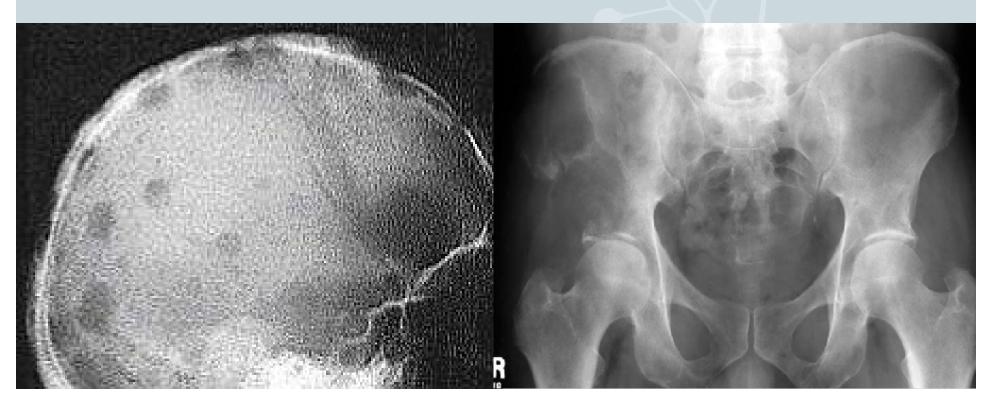
- Quantitative Immunoglobulin Levels (IgG, IgA, IgD, IgE)
- Urine protein electrophoresis (UPEP) is used to identify the

presence of the Bence Jones protein in urine.



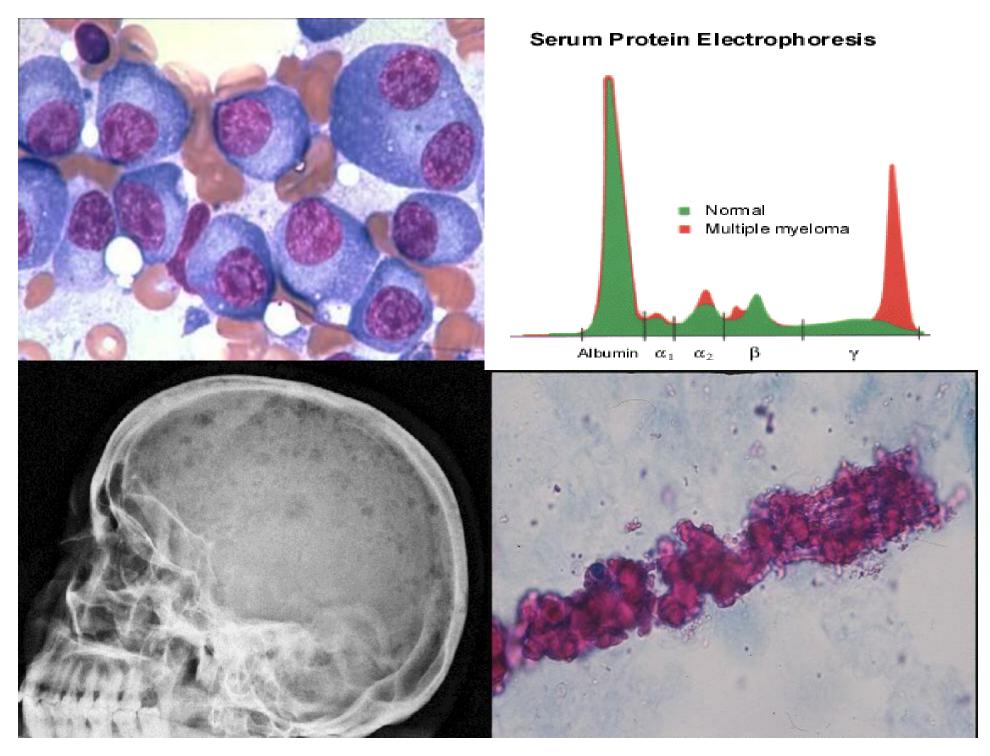
- Serum  $\beta_2$ -microglobulin (prognostic).
- Skeletal survey: including the skull, the long bones, and the

spine.



 Bone marrow aspiration and Biopsy: MM is characterized by an increased number of bone marrow plasma cells.





### Case presentation

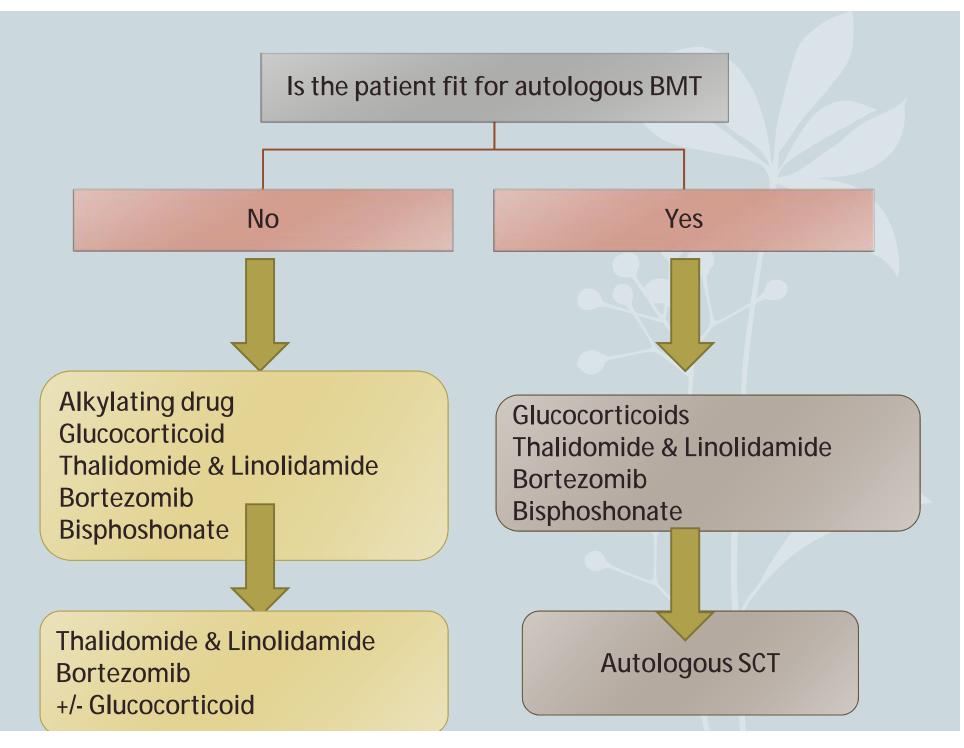
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### Treatment

- Myeloma *is not a curable malignancy*, systemic therapy can prolong survival and dramatically improve quality of life.
- The initial standard treatment for newly diagnosed myeloma is dependent on whether or not the patient is a candidate for high-dose chemotherapy with autologous stem cell transplant.



#### Not transplant candidates patients

ü An alkylating agent, melphalan,

ü Steroid.

ü Thalidomide or lenalidomide (immunomodulatory agents)

ü Bortezomib (proteosome inhibitor).

#### **Transplant candidates patients**

ü An alkylating agent should be avoided

ü Newer agents (lenalidomide, thalidomide, bortezomib)

combined with pulsed glucocorticoids have now become

standard of care as induction therapy in newly diagnosed

patients, followed by autologous SCT.

### Supportive measures

- Erythropoietin improves MM associated anemia.
- Renal Insufficiency management.
- Infection: appropriate therapy for bacterial infections is necessary. immunizations for pneumonia and influenza are

mandatory.

• Hypercalcemia treatment.

• Skeletal Lesions:

ü Encouraged activity as possible but avoid trauma.

ü Bisphosphonate.

ü Palliative radiotherapy.