

# Health Awareness



## Multiple Myeloma

(NAPSA)—At any given time, more than 75,000 Americans are contending with a highly individualized form of cancer—one that is life-threatening, but fortunately, treatable. However, few people were even aware of the disease—which represents one percent of all cancers—until a number of well-known public figures—Roger Neilson, Mel Stottlemyre and Geraldine Ferraro—announced that they are battling the disease.

### Multiple Myeloma Awareness Week

**August 26-  
September 1, 2002**



Multiple myeloma is a cancer of plasma cells which attacks and destroys bone marrow. Approximately 1,000 people worldwide are diagnosed with the condition each day. Although causes are uncertain, exposure to pesticides, atomic radiation and petroleum products are considered to be important trigger factors.

There is no known cure for multiple myeloma. However, recent research has led to significant advancements in treatment options and patient quality of life. Whereas newly diagnosed patients were once faced with grim, post-diagnosis survival statistics of just three to five years, many of today's patients successfully manage their myeloma for much longer.

The International Myeloma Foundation (IMF) is dedicated to improving the quality of life of myeloma patients while working toward prevention and a cure. The IMF actively funds myeloma research, provides patient and physician education and support and serves as an advocate for the myeloma community. To receive a free information package, call 800-452-CURE or visit [www.myeloma.org](http://www.myeloma.org).