

## Why is the FIRST study important to practice?

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Hello, my name is Dr. Philip McCarthy and I am the director of the Blood and Marrow Transplant program at Roswell Park Cancer Institute. I am frequently asked "Why is the FIRST study important to practice?" The FIRST study is a non-transplant eligible patient population who receive treatment upfront with lenalidomide-dex, or RD, until progression, or RD for a fixed number of cycles versus the comparator arm of melphalan-prednisone-thalidomide, also for a fixed number of cycles. The interesting question is the superiority of an RD induction versus MPT, and then the other question to be asked is should RD be given only for a fixed number of cycles or should it be given until progression, and will this impact on progression free and then ultimately on overall survival? This study was primarily conducted in the IFM, Thierry Facon is the lead study person for this MM-020, which it is also called besides the FIRST study. It is supposed to be presented at ASH 2013 and we are all very interested to see the results as we think this will inform us about length of therapy and superiority of RD versus MPT as part of induction.