Navigating the CMC and Regulatory Challenges of a Breakthrough Therapy Product for Multiple Myeloma WCBP 2019

Gene Schaefer, Sr Scientific Director





### **Overview**

- Breakthrough therapies create opportunities & challenges for CMC development and manufacturing from both a technical and organizational view
- Breakthrough Therapies have a simple strategy: GO FAST!
- Benefits from more frequent meetings with FDA but acceleration still impacts:
  - CMC process scaling up & technology transfer
  - Establishing specifications & regulatory filing with limited time/data
- Having experience with previous Breakthrough filings helps
- New modalities are often coupled with breakthrough products the future is now with more to come!





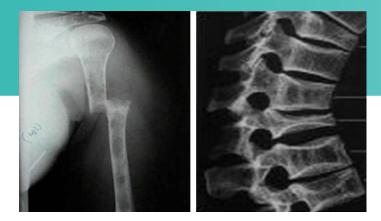
# **Multiple Myeloma**

PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES

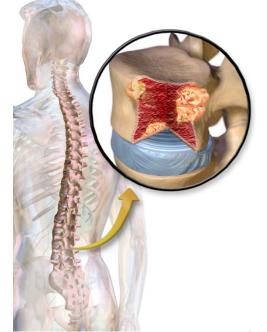
Jansser

- 10-15% of all hematological cancers
- Most prevalent hematological malignancy in people over 65 years old
- 185,000 patients (prevalence) and over 47,000 new cases (incidence) estimated in US, EU-5 and Japan in 2019
- Despite new treatments MM remains incurable - mean life expectancy ~3-5 years

#### Urgent need for new treatments



The bones are destroyed due to infiltration by malignant cells resulting in painful fractures and spinal compressions

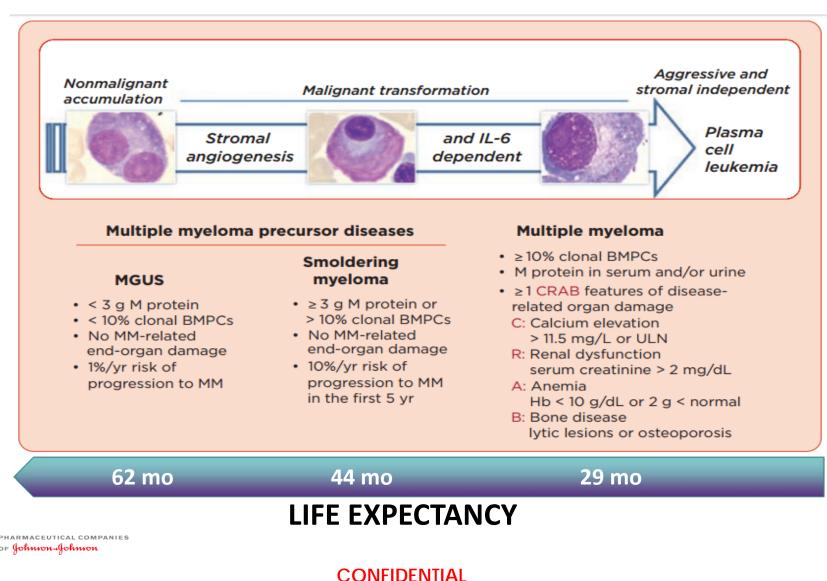






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#### **Multiple Myeloma Disease Continuum & Disease Characteristics**



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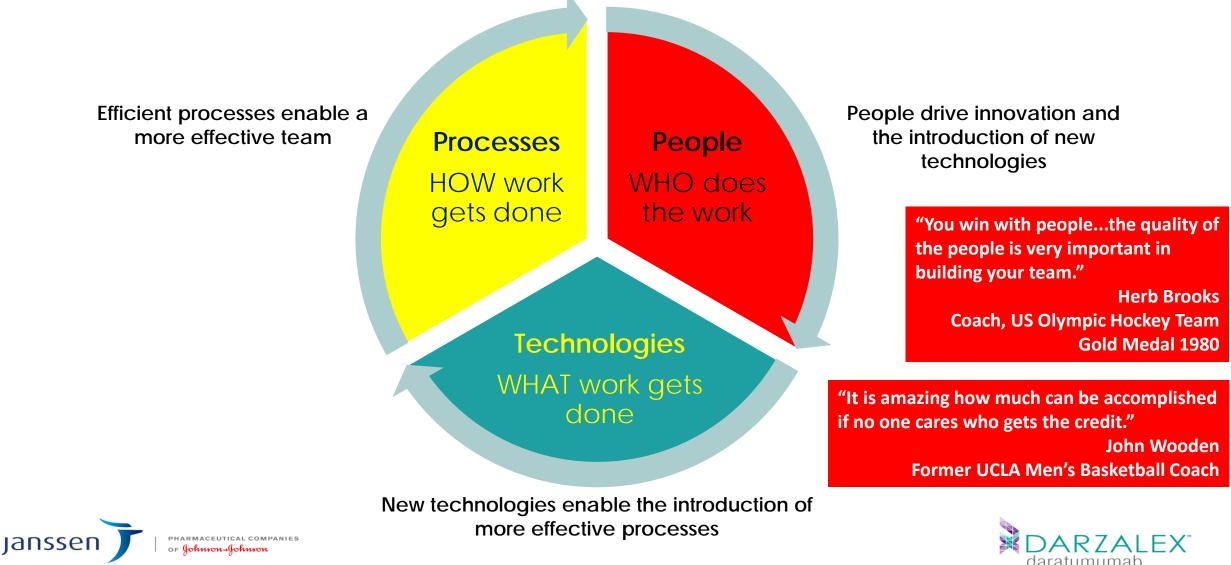


# Project "Mermaid"





# It is always about People, Processes, & Technologies



#### Expanding the "Team" concept beyond one company

# Building biomanufacturing capacity the chapter and verse

#### Michael E Kamarck

Biopharmaceutical manufacturing capacity has moved through three discrete chapters in its 25-year history. Could the next chapter herald formal manufacturing-capacity sharing among companies?

NATURE BIOTECHNOLOGY VOLUME 24 NUMBER 5 MAY 2006

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# Janssen–Biogen: Overview of a Successful Collaboration

#### A Successful & Productive Partnership Since 2010

- More than 30 Tech Transfers
- 12 Pilot Plant Campaigns including Tox
- Accelerated TT Approaches
- 4 "Direct Lab to 2K" Molecules
- 4 Process Robustness Assessments
- More than 20 cGMP Clinical Campaigns
- 8 Process Validation Campaigns at two Biogen sites
- 3 Commercial Products: Darzalex, Tremfya, & Tecfidera

#### INDUSTRIAL BIOTECHNOLOGY — AWARD

presented to

#### Janssen Pharmaceuticals and Biogen Inc.

For their partnership in developing and scaling-up the Darzalex API process which was approved in less than three years followed by a second generation process less than two years later.

by the AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY



DIVISION OF BIOCHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY March 20, 2018





# **Technical Challenges**

- Need to rapidly develop process controls for multiple potential CQAs in USP, esp oligos = need for very fast turnaround of process sample testing
- Need to rapidly move both USP & DSP to JNJ platform, change order of DSP steps, and add frozen VIN intermediate
- Confirm robustness of HCP removal
- Control impact of raw material variability on product quality profile
- Gen2 process was even more demanding in terms of a need for tighter process controls because of high titer and high VCD
- Implementation of biocapacitance control
- Complex scale-up and TT of a high VCD process
- Modifications to DSP required to manage high titer without adding equipment





#### **Business Process Lessons Learned**

- Select the right team for the task
- Align early around Regulatory Strategy
- Standardize around a Platform
  - Unit operations
  - Raw Materials
  - Equipment & Vendors
- Understand implications of scale-up as well as E2E details
- Externalize routine tasks when possible
- Effective data management
- Flexible leadership model
- Use Governance Effectively

Janssen / PHARMACEUTH





# **Business Process Lessons Learned Drive New Practices for Accelerated Programs**

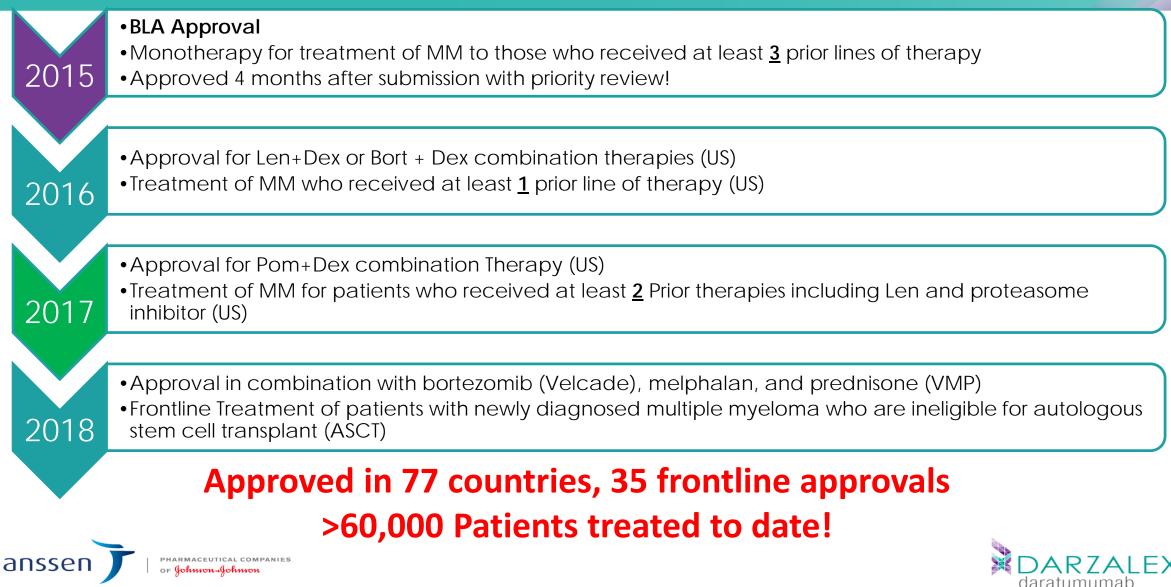
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• Select the right team for the task

- Align early around Regulatory Strategy
- Adopt "Psychology of Standardization"
  - Borrow platform modules where possible
  - Track risks of novel raw materials & equipment
  - Vendors often fragile supply chains
- Understand implications of scale-up/out as well as E2E details – distributed supply chain
- Externalize routine tasks whenever possible
- Effective data management more partner-focused
- Flexible leadership model
- Use Governance effectively



# **DARZALEX** Approvals



Thank you!