

# Bristol Myers Squibb Continues to Chart Course for Next Generation Cancer Treatments

With a history spanning over 150 years, Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS) is well known for its work to help patients prevail over their diseases. Two years ago, the company entered a new chapter following its acquisition of Celgene Corporation. The company, a global leader in biopharma, continues its work to address the needs of patients, including pioneering next generation medicines for those with cancer. At the same time, it continues to address the impact of COVID-19 across its global community.

## Next Generation Cancer Care

The company is at the forefront of discovering, developing and delivering new medicines that use a patient's own cells to fight disease, known as cell therapy. The company has invested significantly in research and development in this space to bring transformative medicines to patients in need.

Specifically, BMS has advanced the science of autologous chimeric antigen receptor, or CAR T cell therapy, a type of cancer immunotherapy where a patient's own T cells are genetically engineered to recognize and bind to proteins found on the surface of certain cancer cells. CAR T cell therapies have been shown to improve outcomes for some patients who may otherwise have no other option and represent a significant advancement in the scientific progress of treating cancer.

In 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved two BMS CAR T cell therapies with two distinct targets: *Breyanzi*®, a CD19-directed CAR T cell therapy, for the treatment of adults with relapsed or refractory large B-cell lymphoma after two or more lines of systemic therapy; and *Abecma*®, a first-in-class B-cell maturation antigen (BCMA)-directed CAR T cell therapy for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma after four or more prior lines of therapy.

Unlike traditional medicines, CAR T cell therapy requires a highly sophisticated and personalized manufacturing process, where a patient's T cells are extracted, sent to a manufacturing facility where they are reengineered and expanded to produce sufficient cells for fighting the disease, and then returned to the provider for infusion back into the patient.

"We are committed to making our two FDA-approved CAR T cell therapy treatments available for eligible patients, as they have significant potential to help address critical unmet needs," said David Lin, Vice President, Head of U.S. Cell Therapy for BMS. "Looking to the future, BMS will leverage one of the largest datasets of CAR T product, translational and clinical data in the industry, as well as numerous strategic partnerships with industry leaders to research and develop cell therapies with new technologies, with the goal of helping even more people with aggressive blood cancers."

To further fulfill its goal of addressing unmet patient needs, BMS has more on the horizon as it continues to invest in the future of cell therapy, including off-the-shelf CAR T approaches, engineered and gene edited T cells for solid tumors, and enhanced manufacturing processes.

## COVID-19 Response

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect each of us and the communities in which we live in different ways. BMS has taken steps to help protect the health, wellbeing and safety of its workforce, to help ensure the continued supply of its medicines to its patients, and to provide support relief efforts across the globe.

### **Patient Support in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic**

In April 2020 at the start of the pandemic, BMS expanded its existing patient support programs to help eligible unemployed patients in the United States who have lost their health insurance due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The expanded program, which continues in 2022, offers eligible individuals access to the company's branded medicines for free. It includes immediate access for patients who have lost their employment and health insurance as well as vouchers to assist with continuity of care for several self-administered BMS medicines, for eligible patients. The program also uses a single point of entry and streamlined enrollment.

### **Philanthropic Response**

BMS and the Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, are actively and separately contributing to relief efforts around the world. In 2020, the company contributed nearly \$10 million to organizations in 45 countries, and the Foundation contributed more than \$21 million to organizations in 42 countries.

The Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation has supported nearly 50 organizations in the U.S. and more than 150 organizations globally that care for patients and that support those on the frontlines of the COVID-19 response. In addition, the Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation has contributed funding to support the work of more than 40 patient advocacy groups and professional societies. Moreover, BMS is engaging with more than 250 patient and professional organizations to support research, education, and a wide range of efforts to benefit patients.

### **Looking Ahead**

BMS remains committed to advancing innovative medicines, including CAR T cell therapy, so patients across the world can continue to prevail over serious diseases.

