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Why is there a need for uniform response criteria in multiple myeloma?

Hi, I am Rafael Fonseca, I am a professor medicine at the Mayo Clinic in Arizona. I am frequently asked why there is a need for uniform response criteria for multiple myeloma. When the International Myeloma Working Group got together they wanted to facilitate our ability to compare efficacy between two new treatments in clinical trial, so very important for those comparisons. However, this criteria have been used also routinely now in the clinic so we can better gauge progress with specific therapeutics for patients. These guidelines also aim to introduce a serum-free light chain as a new marker which is widely adopted in the clinic to provide some definition for stricter complete responses and also to provide some clarification for some areas that were not well defined in previous response criteria guidelines.