CLL: State of the Art 2018

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Speaker Disclosures

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*This program may contain discussion of off-label content

Treatment Strategies for CLL Patients

Group 1 Fit No comorbidity Normal life expectancy 	Group 2 Less fit Comorbidity present 	Group 3 • Not fit • High comorbidity
'Go go' Intensive therapy	'Slow go' Mild therapy/new oral agents	'No go' Palliative care
→ Long-lasting remissions and treatment -free	→ Control of disease	Care

Balducci L & Extermann M, Oncologist 2000; 5:224–237.

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Early Results of a Chemoimmunotherapy Regimen of Fludarabine, Cyclophosphamide, and Rituximab As Initial Therapy for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

ORIGINAL REPORT

Michael J. Keating, Susan O'Brien, Maher Albitar, Susan Lerner, William Plunkett, Francis Giles, Michael Andreeff, Jorge Cortes, Stefan Faderl, Deborah Thomas, Charles Koller, William Wierda, Michelle A. Detry, Alice Lynn, and Hagop Kantarjian

From the Departments of Leukemia, Hematopathology, Experimental Therapeutics, Blood and Marrow Transplantation, and the Biostatistics and Applied Mathematics, The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX.

Submitted December 9, 2003; accepted November 11, 2004.

Purpose

Fludarabine and cyclophosphamide (FC), which are active in treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), are synergistic with the monoclonal antibody rituximab in vitro in lymphoma cell lines. A chemoimmunotherapy program consisting of fludarabine, cyclophosphamide, and rituximab (FCR) was developed with the goal of increasing the complete remission (CR) rate in previously untreated CLL patients to \geq 50%.

CLL10 Study: FCR VS BR in Front-Line

Design

Patients with untreated, active CLL without del(17p) and good physical fitness (CIRS \leq 6, creatinine clearance \geq 70 ml/min)

Randomization



FCR Fludarabine 25 mg/m² i.v., days 1-3 Cyclophosphamide 250 mg/m², days 1-3, Rituximab 375 mg/ m² i.v day 0, cycle 1 Rituximab 500 mg/m² i.v. day 1, cycle 2-6



BR

Bendamustine 90mg/m² day 1-2 Rituximab 375 mg/m² day 0, cycle 1 Rituximab 500 mg/m² day 1, cycle 2-6

Non-Inferiority of BR in comparison to FCR for PFS:

HR (λ BR/FCR) less than 1.388

Eichhorst et al Lancet Oncol 2016 Jul; 17(7):925-42

CLL10 Study: FCR VS BR in Front-Line

ITT Progression-free Survival = Primary Endpoint



CLL10 Study: FCR VS BR in Front-Line

Adverse Events CTC °3-4 (1st cycle until end of study)

Adverse event	FCR (%) N= 279	BR (%) N=278	p value	
Neutropenia	84.2	59.0	<0.001	
Anemia	13.6	10.4	0.20	
Thrombocytopenia	21.5	14.4	0.03	
Infection	39.1	26.8	<0.001	
Sec Neoplasm*	6.1	3.6	0.244	
		*sAML/MDS: FCR=6, BR = 1		
TRM	4.6	2.1	0.107	
Infections	2.5	2.1	-	
Sec Neoplasm	1.1	0	-	
Other	1.0			

OK, FCR produces a year longer PFS then BR but at the expense of more myelosuppression and serious infections.

Also, I have a great salvage treatment in ibrutinib.

So why use FCR?

Favorable long-term PFS with Firstline FCR in *IGHV*-M Subgroup



Eichhorst, Lancet Oncology 2016.

Rossi, Blood 2015.

PFS = Progression Free Survival So living without evidence of CLL

Favorable long-term PFS with Firstline FCR in *IGHV*-M Subgroup



Thompson, Blood 2016.

• OK, so maybe the fit mutated patients should still be offered FCR.

What about the fit unmutated?

RESONATE[™]-2 (PCYC-1115) Study Design

Patients (N=269)

- Treatment-naïve CLL/SLL with active disease
- Age ≥65 years
- For patients 65-69 years, comorbidity that may preclude FCR
- del17p excluded
- Warfarin use excluded

Stratification factors

- ECOG status (0-1 vs. 2)
- Rai stage (III-IV vs. ≤II)



chlorambucil 0.5 mg/kg (to maximum 0.8 mg/kg) days 1 and 15 of 28-day cycle up to 12 cycles



*Patients with IRC-confirmed PD enrolled into extension Study 1116 for follow-up and second-line treatment per investigator's choice (including ibrutinib for patients progressing on chlorambucil with iwCLL indication for treatment).

• Phase 3, open-label, multicenter, international study

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1:1

- Primary endpoint: PFS as evaluated by IRC (2008 iwCLL criteria)^{1,2}
- Secondary endpoints: OS, ORR, hematologic improvement, safety

1. Hallek et al. *Blood*. 2008;111:5446-5456; 2. Hallek et al, *Blood*. 2012; e-letter, June 04, 2012.

Ibrutinib Prolonged PFS Over Chlorambucil



- 88% reduction in the risk of progression or death for patients randomized to ibrutinib
- Subgroup analysis of PFS revealed benefit was observed across all subgroups

Barr P, et al. Blood. 2016;128: Abstract 234.

Ibrutinib Continues to Demonstrate OS Benefit Over Chlorambucil With Longer Follow-Up and Cross-Over



Barr P, et al. Blood. 2016;128: Abstract 234.

 Well yes ibrutinib is significantly better then chlorambucil but I wouldn't use chlorambucil in my fit patient.





Indirect Comparison of Single-Agent Ibrutinib With Chemoimmunotherapy Regimens for First-Line Treatment of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)

Tadeusz Robak

Atlanta, 59th ASH Meeting, December 9, 2017

Single-Agent Ibrutinib vs Chemoimmunotherapy Regimens for Treatment-Naïve Patients With CLL: a Cross-Trial Comparison – PFS

All Comparator Studies



Progression-Free Survival (PFS) in RESONATE-2 and Comparator Studies

Robak et al. Am J Hematol. 2018 Aug 20. doi: 10.1002/ajh.25259

Single-Agent Ibrutinib vs Chemoimmunotherapy Regimens for Treatment-Naïve Patients With CLL: a Cross-Trial Comparison - PFS

Studies Excluding Patients

Studies in Older Patients or Patients with Comorbidities



Robak et al. ASH. 2017 Abstract 1750

Robak et al. Am J Hematol. 2018 Aug 20. doi: 10.1002/ajh.25259

Frontline Treatment Strategies for CLL Patients

Group 1 Older Comorbidities Not fit 	Group 2 Fit Unmutated 	Group 3 Fit Mutated
Clinical Trial Ibrutinib	Clinical Trial Ibrutinib	Clinical Trial FCR or Ibrutinib?

Relapse post ibrutinib: Venetoclax and rituximab

Balducci L & Extermann M, Oncologist 2000; 5:224–237.

A CLL treatment algorithm that includes IGHV testing



LDT=lymphocyte doubling time; CIT=chemoimmunotherapy; BTK=Bruton's tyrosine kinase.

References: 1. Kipps TJ et al. Nat Rev Dis Primers 2017;(3):17008.

What about therapy for relapse?

Ibrutinib 5-Year Update Best Response



CR, complete response; DOR, duration of response; NR, not reached; PR, partial response; PR-L, partial response with lymphocytosis; R/R, relapsed/refractory; TN, treatment-naïve

O'Brien S, et al. Blood. 2016;128: Abstract 233.

O'Brien et al Blood Epub 2/2/18

Survival Outcomes: Overall Population



43%

O'Brien S, et al. Blood. 2016;128: Abstract 233.

101)

O'Brien et al Blood Epub 2/2/18

Survival Outcomes by Chromosomal Abnormalities Detected by FISH in R/R Patients*



	Median PFS	5-year PFS		Median OS	5-year OS
Del17p (n = 34)	26 months	19%	Del17p (n = 34)	57 months	32%
Del11q (n = 28)	55 months	33%	Del11q (n = 28)	NR	61%
Trisomy 12 (n = 5)	NR	80%	Trisomy 12 (n = 5)	NR	80%
Del13q (n = 13)	NR	91%	Del13q (n = 13)	NR	91%
No abnormality** (n = 16)	NR	66%	No abnormality** (n = 16)	NR	83%

O'Brien S, et al. *Blood.* 2016;128: Abstract 233.

**O'Brien S. et al. Blood. Epub 2/2/18

Survival by IGHV Mutational Status in R/R Patients*

Progression-Free Survival

Overall Survival



*Only 2 patients in the TN group showed disease progression or death. Subgroup analyses, therefore, focused on the R/R population.

NR, not reached.

Outcomes of CLL Patients Treated With Sequential Kinase Inhibitor Therapy: A Real World Experience

Mato AR, Nabhan C, Barr PM, Ujjani CS, Hill BT, Lamanna N, Skarbnik AP, Howlett C, Pu JJ, Sehgal AR, Strelec LE, Vandegrift A, Fitzpatrick DM, Zent CS, Feldman T, Goy A, Claxton DF, Bachow SH, Kaur G, Svoboda J, Nasta SD, Porter D, Landsburg DJ, Schuster SJ1, Cheson BD, Kiselev P, Evens AM

Mato et al. Blood. 2016 Nov 3;128(18):2199-2205. Epub 2016 Sep 6;



RT excluded from analysis

Venetoclax: Potent and Selective Bcl-2 Inhibition

- Small molecule, orally bioavailable
- High affinity for Bcl-2, lower affinity for BCL-xL, Mcl-1
- >100-fold improved functional selectivity for Bcl-2 over Bcl-x_L in assays with tumor cell lines



	Affinity		Cellular Efficacy, EC ₅₀ , nM						
	TR FRET K _i , nM		FL5.12, 3% FBS			Human tumor cell lines, 10% HS			
							Functional	RS4;11	H146
Agents	Bcl-2	Bcl-x _L	Bcl-w	McI-1	Bcl-2	Bcl-x _L	Selectivity	(Bcl-2)	(Bcl-x _L)
Navitoclax	0.04	0.05	7	>224	20	13	0.6	110	75
ABT-199	< 0.01	48	21	>440	4	261	65	12	3600

S. Jin, P. Kovar, P. Nimmer, M. Smith, Y. Xiao

,	Veneto	clax	
CRR and OR	R Rate	s by Sub	groups
<u>Variable</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>ORR</u> %	<u>CR</u> %
All patients	116	79	20
17p deletion	31	71	16
Unmutated	46	76	17
Flu - refractory	70	79	16
Prior Rx ≥ 4	56	73	16
Age ≥ 70	34	71	21
Nodes > 5cm	67	78	8
Of 23 CR patients, 17	tested for N	1RD in BM, 6	(35%) negative

Roberts et al N. Engl J Med 2016; 374; 311-22

PFS by Subgroups; DOR by PR vs CR



Roberts AW et al. N Engl J Med 2016;374:311-322.

Venetoclax Monotherapy for **Patients with Chronic Lymphocytic** Leukemia (CLL) Who Relapsed After or Were Refractory to Ibrutinib or Idelalisib Abstract 637 **ASH 2016**

Jones J, Choi MY, Mato AR, Furman RR, Davids MS, Heffner L, Cheson BD, Lamanna N, Barr PM, Eradat H, Halwani A, Chyla B, Zhu M, Verdugo M, Humerickhouse RA, Potluri J, Wierda WG, Coutre S

Patient Characteristics N=91 (Prior Ibrutinib)

Age (years) No. of prior Rx Time on ibrutinib (mos) Refractory Prior idelalisib Unmutated Del17p TP53 mutation 66 (28-81) 4 (1-15) 20 (1-61) 68% 12% 75% 45% 33%

Venetoclax Efficacy (Prior Ibrutinib)

<u>Response</u>	Percent
OR	65
CR/Cri	9
nPR	3
PR	48
Median follow-up: 14 months Still on venetoclax: 51%	

Jones J, et al. Lancet Oncol 2018; 19:65-75.

Venetoclax Progression Free Survival (Prior Ibrutinib)



Jones et al. Lancet Oncology 2018; 19:65-75.

Venetoclax Minimal Residual Disease Status (Prior Ibrutinib)



Jones et al. Lancet Oncology 2018; 19:65-75.

Venetoclax followed by Ibrutinib

- Six of 8 patients with progressive CLL/SLL on venetoclax were treated with ibrutinib as their first postprogression therapy
- Five achieved a PR
- 3 remain alive on therapy at last follow-up (6, 13, and 16 months)
- 3 died, 2 of toxicity and 1 of PD

Anderson et al. Blood. 2017 June 22;129(25):3362-3370

Venetoclax Plus Rituximab is Superior to Bendamustine Plus Rituximab in Patients with Relapsed / Refractory Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia – Results from Pre-Planned Interim Analysis of the Randomized Phase 3 MURANO Study

John F. Seymour¹, Thomas Kipps², Barbara Eichhorst³, Peter Hillmen⁴, James D'Rozario⁵, Sarit Assouline⁶, Carolyn Owen⁷, John Gerecitano⁸, Tadeusz Robak⁹, Javier De Ia Serna¹⁰, Ulrich Jaeger¹¹, Guillaume Cartron¹², Marco Montillo¹³, Rod Humerickhouse¹⁴, Elizabeth A. Punnoose¹⁵, Yan Li¹⁵, Michelle Boyer¹⁶, Kathryn Humphrey¹⁶, Mehrdad Mobasher¹⁵, Arnon P. Kater¹⁷

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MURANO Study Design

Relapsed/refractory CLL (N=389)

- ≥18 years of age
- Prior 1–3 lines of therapy, including ≥1 chemocontaining regimen
- Prior bendamustine only if DoR ≥24 months

Stratified by:

- Del(17p) by local labs
- Responsiveness to prior therapy*
- Geographic region



Primary Endpoint	INV-assessed PFS
Major Secondary	 IRC-CR ⇒ IRC-ORR ⇒ OS (hierarchical testing)
Endpoints	 IRC-assessed PFS and MRD-negativity
Key Safety Endpoints	Overall safety profile, focusing on serious adverse events and Grade \geq 3 adverse events
Interim Analysis	Approximately 140 INV-assessed PFS events (75% of total information)

NCT02005471

*High-risk CLL – any of following features: del(17p) or no response to front-line chemotherapy-containing regimen or relapsed ≤12 months after chemotherapy or within ≤24 months after chemoimmunotherapy

Improved Response Rates for VenR vs. BR

INV-assessed



IRC-assessed



Of 42 INV-assessed CRs discrepant in VenR arm, 28 due to residual CT scan nodes 16–30 mm diameter; 88% of these were PB MRD negative

As of 8 May 2017

Seymour et al. N Engl J Med 2018 Mar 22; 378(12):1107-1120

* Descriptive P-values.

High Peripheral Blood MRD Negativity Rate Maintained Over Time for VenR vs. BR



Investigator-Assessed PFS Superior for VenR vs. BR



- Median (range) duration of follow-up, 23.8 (0.0-37.4) months:
- Venetoclax + rituximab, 24.8 months; bendamustine + rituximab, 22.1 months

As of 8 May 2017

Clinically Meaningful Improvement in Overall Survival for VenR vs. BR





- IGHV mutation status important for deciding treatment
- Ibrutinib appears more effective than CIT as initial therapy in patients with CLL
- Patients with mutated IGHV gene have very long term remissions with FCR – cure?
- Venetoclax is excellent salvage treatment for patients relapsing on ibrutinib
- Venetoclax and rituximab produces high rates of MRD negativity and prolonged PFS
- VenR or ibrutinib first?