# Maintenance Therapy

Caitlin Costello, MD Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine Division of Blood and Marrow Transplant Moores Cancer Center University of California, San Diego

# I got my transplant! Now what?

### Treatment Schema for Myeloma



# Why Maintenance Therapy?

Can maintenance therapy...

Prevent or delay disease progression?

Convert partial responses to complete responses?

Improve overall survival?

# Existing Evidence on Drugs Used as Maintenance Therapy

### Revlimid

- Reduction in myeloma progression (3 large studies)
- Improved survival (1 of 3 studies)
   Small risk of second cancers when used after melphalan
- Now approved for use as maintenance treatment after ASCT

#### Velcade-based treatment

Supported by several smaller studies

#### Ninlaro

Oral proteasome inhibitor

Additional agent under investigation: Kyprolis

# Maintenance Therapy in Myeloma

#### What we know

- Progression-free survival advantage
- Overall survival improvements?
- Toxicities of treatment
  - Myelosuppression
  - Second primary malignancies<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Quality of life
- Cost

#### What we don't know

- Whether all patients benefit from maintenance
- Which agent to use and duration of therapy
- Response to higher doses of Revlimid at relapse
- Evolution of resistant clones

## Maintenance Therapy Benefits and Risks

The anti-myeloma benefits of continuous therapy must be balanced with the toxicities of prolonged treatment.

A major concern with the use of maintenance therapy is the development of toxicity that limits long-term use and potentially compromises the ability to receive optimal treatment in the future.





Ę

### Maintenance Lenalidomide *Meta-Analysis*

• Outcomes with maintenance lenalidomide vs placebo/observation after ASCT:

	Meta-Analysis (N = 1208) <sup>[d]</sup>
Median PFS,* mo	52.8 vs 23.5
Median OS,* mo	NR vs 86.0
SPM	个Len vs placebo/obs

\*Significantly improved with maintenance lenalidomide.

• McCarthy PL, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2017;35:3279-3289.

Ē

### Post-transplant therapy

- American study (CALGB): improvement in PFS and OS with lenalidomide maintenance
  - Increased risk of secondary cancers 11% vs 4% (6% blood cancers vs 1%)<sup>2</sup>
- European study (IFM): improvement in PFS but not OS<sup>3</sup>
  - Increased secondary cancers (13% vs 7%)
- Meta-analysis of 3 trials:improvement in OS for maintenance groups, regardless of response to transplant<sup>3</sup>

- 1. McCarthy et al, NEJM 2012
- 2. Attal et al, NEJM 2012
- 3. Attal et al, ASCO 2016

# Meta-analysis of 3 Phase III Trials: OS With Len Maintenance after ASCT



26%

McCarthy PL, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2017; [Epub ahead of print].

Ę

# Meta-analysis of 3 Phase III Trials: OS Benefit in Subgroups



\*Incomplete data sets: Cytogenetic data were available only for the IFM and GIMEMA studies; CrCl post-ASCT data were available only for the CALGB and IFM studies

McCarthy PL, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2017;[Epub ahead of print]

Ę

# **Continuous Therapy Concerns**

- Effects on immune system
- Effects on blood production/bone marrow
- Potential effects on drug resistance<sup>1,2</sup>
- Toxicity<sup>3</sup>
  - Early → fatigue, GI toxicity, reduction in blood cell production, peripheral neuropathy, blood clots, diarrhea, others
  - Late → secondary primary cancer, decreased marrow reserve

### Management of Common Toxicities With Revlimid Maintenance

Fatigue	Diarrhea	Rash	Thrombosis	Muscle spasms
<ul> <li>Dosing: every night at bedtime (?)</li> <li>Dose reduction</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Antidiarrheal agents</li> <li>Bile salt binders/low-fat diet (for example, colesevelam, cholestyramine)*</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Topical steroids/oral antihistamines</li> <li>Hold/reduce dose</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Prophylaxis with aspirin</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Quinine sulfate 300 mg every night at bedtime</li> <li>Clonazepam in severe cases</li> </ul>

# **Minimizing Toxicity of Velcade**

# Peripheral neuropathy

- Weekly dosing<sup>1</sup>
- Subcutaneous administration<sup>2</sup>

#### Gastrointestinal<sup>3</sup>

- Ondansetron premedication
- Antidiarrheal agents
- Subcutaneous administration

#### Infection

 Antizoster prophylaxis with acyclovir or related antiviral agent



The body of evidence from phase 3 trials indicates that maintenance (or "continuous") therapy improves progression-free, and likely overall, survival

The optimal duration is uncertain; however, data to date suggest that it should be given until progression

 Trials are evaluating various durations of therapy (1 year, 3 years, or until progression; StAMINA, IFM/DFCI 2009 trials, respectively)

Given the heterogeneity of myeloma, some patients likely do not need maintenance, whereas others may do well with truncated courses

 However, we currently do not have the ability to determine these patients prospectively or during therapy

Minimizing toxicity and maximizing quality of life are essential to the success of maintenance therapy

- Choice of agents/regimens
- Dose adjustments
- Symptom management
- Monitoring incidence/risk factors for late toxicity important

### Implementing Maintenance Therapy

#### Who should be offered maintenance therapy?

• Most patients, regardless of response<sup>[a]</sup>

#### What should they receive?

- Most patients: lenalidomide monotherapy<sup>[a]</sup>
- High-risk disease: consider proteasome inhibitor-based maintenance<sup>[b-c]</sup>

#### For how long should they receive it?

• Lenalidomide monotherapy: at least 2 years, continuing if tolerated, 10 mg to 15 mg daily, 21 d of 28 d cycle

• c. Nooka AK, et al. *Leukemia*. 2013;28:690-693;

<sup>•</sup> a. McCarthy PL, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2017;35:3279-3289; b. Sonneveld P, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2012;30:2946-2955;

### Other options for maintenance regimens



### Ixazomib maintenance



### Secondary Cancers

- Revlimid maintenance after transplant has been associated with a higher risk of other cancers
- In general, the risks of myeloma relapsing (100%) is far greater than the risk of getting a difference cancer from revlimid (~7%?)



### Thank you...!