Living Well with Myeloma: Novel Agents & Clinical Trials 2017

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What We Will Discuss Today

Definitions

- What is a response with myeloma treatment?
- Novel Agents
 - BCL-2 and BCL-2 inhibitors
 - Check-point inhibitors
- Clinical Trials
 - Facts and Myths

What are we talking about? Definition in Myeloma Treatment....

Did it work?:

International Myeloma Working Group Response Criteria

Complete response (CR)

- Treatment where there are ≤5% plasma cells in the bone marrow and/or no evidence of laboratory myeloma proteins in the serum or urine.
- Very good partial response (VGPR)
 - Treatment outcome where there is a greater than <u>90%</u> decrease in M protein

Partial response (PR)

• Treatment outcome where there is a greater than <u>50%</u> decrease in M protein

Stable disease (SD)

 Treatment outcome where the disease has not responded to therapy (no change in M-protein) but has not progressed.

What are we talking about? Definitions in Myeloma Treatment....

Did it work?

Overall response rate (ORR)
Percentage of patients who respond in a clinical trial with a partial response (>50% reduction) or better.

Clinical Benefit Rate (CBR)

Percentage of patients who respond in a clinical trial with STABLE DISEASE or better (anything other than progressive disease).

How long did it work/ what are the side effects?

OS: Overall Survival PFS: Progression-Free Survival (from start of new treatment until it's failure) AE: Adverse Events- Bad side effects

Old Therapies for Myeloma



Hideshima T et al. *Blood.* 2004;104:607. Hideshima T, Anderson KC. *Nat Rev Cancer.* 2007;7:585.

Currently Available Therapies Targeting Myeloma Cells in the Bone Marrow Microenvironment



Currently Available Therapies Targeting Myeloma Cells in the Bone Marrow Microenvironment



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Applying the Science: Novel Agents in Myeloma enerator.net

Application of Science: BCL-2 and Chromosome 11 and 14



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Venetoclax for Relapsed/ Refractory MM: Background

- Survival of cancer cells is promoted by proteins BCL-2 and which allow cells to survive and proliferate.
 - Overexpression of Bcl-2 in some cancers has sometimes shown to be linked with increased resistance to chemotherapy.
- Venetoclax (Venclexta) is a oral (*pill*) Bcl-2 inhibitor.
 - It blocks (BcI-2) protein leading to programmed cell death of cancer cells.
- FDA approval for high risk types of chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) in 2015.
- In CLL the common side effects were low white blood cell count, nausea, anemia, diarrhea, upper respiratory tract infection, fatigue.
 - Major side effect in CLL was *Tumor Lysis Syndrome* (sudden cancer cell death with unstable electrolytes).

Venetoclax Monotherapy for Relapsed/ Refractory MM: Background

- Laboratory studies show venetoclax induces Myeloma cell death in cell line samples.
 - Cells positive for translocation 11 and14 (t11;14) are particularly susceptible.
 - t11;14 correlated with higher ratios of *BCL2/MCL1* genes and *BCL2/BCL2L1* (BCL-X_L) mRNA.
- This exploratory (Phase-1) study evaluated safety and tolerability of venetoclax solotherapy in pts with previously treated MM.

Venetoclax Monotherapy for Relapsed/ Refractory MM: Phase I Study Design

Pts who progressed on venetoclax could add dexamethasone and continue on study.

Kumar S, et al. ASH 2016. Abstract 488.

Venetoclax Monotherapy for Relapsed/ Refractory MM: Overall Response Rate

Outcome, %	Overall Population (N = 66)	Pts With t(11;14) (n = 30)	Pts Without t(11;14) (n = 36)	Pts With High BCL2/BCL2L 1 (n = 9)	Pts With Low BCL2/BCL2L 1 (n = 15)
Overall RR	21	40	6	88	20
sCR	3	4	3	11	0
CR	4	10	0	33	0
VGPR	8	13	3	11	13
Partial R	6	13	0	33	7

Venetoclax Monotherapy for Relapsed/ Refractory MM: Conclusions

- In pts with previously treated MM, BCL-2 inhibitor venetoclax solo-therapy was safe and tolerable.
 - Dose-limiting toxicity at 600 mg was abdominal pain, nausea (n = 2).
 - Tumor lysis syndrome (sudden cancer cell death with unstable electrolytes) was NOT documented.
- Overall Response Rate: 21% for total population
- Overall Response Rate in t(11;14) patients :40%
 - Higher Overall Response Rates, deeper responses, and greater time to progression in patients with t(11;14)
 - Venetoclax activity independent of previous treatment history in pts with t(11;14)
 - Higher ORR also seen in pts with high vs low BCL2/BCL2L1 ratio
- This is Precision Therapy in Myeloma!

What is Precision Medicine? WITH WITHOUT PRECISION MEDICINE PRECISION MEDICINE EACH PATIENT BENEFITS PATIENT SOME BENEFIT, t11;14 or BCL-2 OTHERS DO NOT SAME THERAPY TESTS Venetoclax ADVERSE EFFECTS BENEFIT TAILORED NO BENEFIT THERAPY D6A ODAY

Immune checkpoint inhibitors to treat cancer

- The Immune system has the ability to tell between **normal cells** from **abnormal cells**.
 - This lets the immune system attack the bad cells while leaving the normal cells alone.
- The immune system uses "checkpoints" molecules on certain immune cells to attack abnormal cells or leave normal cells alone.
- Cancer cells sometimes find ways to use these checkpoints to avoid being attacked by the immune system.

NO IMMUNE SYSTEM ATTACK!

Check-point inhibitor studies

- Anti PD-L1 antibodies FDA approved:
 - Atezolizumab approved for bladder cancer treatment.
- Anti PD-1 antibodies FDA approved:
 - Nivolumab is approved to treat melanoma, lung cancer, kidney cancer and Hodgkin's lymphoma.
 - Pembrolizumab is approved for is approved to treat melanoma and lung cancer.
- At the ASCO 2016 the first Check-point inhibitor study was presented.
 - KEYNOTE-023: phase I study evaluating pembrolizumab 200mg + Revlimid 25mg + Dexamethasone 40mg in pts with Relapsed/Refractory MM with more than 3 prior therapies.
 - Overall Response rate: 50%
 - Revlimid failure (refractory) response rate: 38%
 - 88% of pts showed some decrease in M protein or free light chains from baseline

Pembrolizumab, Pomalidomide, Dexamethasone for Relapsed Refractory MM

IMiDs + proteasome inhibitors

Badros AZ, et al. ASH 2016. Abstract 490.

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Pembrolizumab, Pomalidomide, Dexamethasone for R/R MM: Adverse Events

Adverse Events	All Severities		High Severity Grade > 3	
In > 30% of pts	Fatigue Neutropenia Hyperglycemia Thrombocytopenia Anemia	Dizziness Constipation infection Short of breath Edema	Neutropenia	
In > 20% to 30% of pts	Lymphopenia Muscle spams Rash Diarrhea	Infection Pneumonia Nausea	Anemia Hyperglycemia	
In ≥ 10% to 20% of pts	Hypotension Peripheral neuropathy Arrhythmia		Pneumonia Fatigue Lymphopenia	Low Platelets
Immune Reaction AEs in any pt	Pneumonitis (12%) Hypothyroidism (10%)	Adrenal Hepatitis Vitiligo	Hypothyroidism Pneumonitis	Adrenal Hepatitis

Pembrolizumab, Pomalidomide, Dexamethasone for R/R MM: How well does it work?

Response, %	Full Population (N = 45)	Refractory to 2 Classes (n = 32)	High-Risk Cytogenetics (n = 27)
Overall Response Rate	65	68	56
Clinical benefit	72	69	60
Best response • sCR • CR • VGPR • PR • MR • SD • PD	7 2 20 36 7 23 5	3 3 18 44 3 22 4	7 4 4 41 4 31 7
sCR + CR+ VGPR, %	29	24	15

Badros AZ, et al. ASH 2016. Abstract 490.

Pembrolizumab, Pomalidomide, Dexamethasone for R/R MM: Duration of Response and Survival

Outcome in months	Full Efficacy Population (N = 45)
Median duration of response	16.3 (9.9-19.1)
Median Progression Free Surv	17.4 (11.7-18.8)
Median Overall Survival	Not reached (18.8-not reached)

- PFS significantly longer in low-risk vs high-risk subgroups.
- Side effects occurred in ~ 50% of the study population
 - Discontinuation in only10%; most side effects were manageable.
 - Most dose reductions were due to Pomalyst

The Original Standard for Multiple Myeloma: Urethane Therapy

- Urethane was first prepared in the nineteenth century.
 - Was known to inhibit plant root growth and a chemical weapon.
- 1947-report that urethane produced a significant response in <u>two patients</u> with myeloma.
- For almost <u>20 years</u>, urethane was the standard treatment for multiple myeloma.
- 1966 Randomized <u>clinical trial</u> between urethane and cola in myeloma.

No difference in survival!

Lancet.1947 Sep 13;2(6472):388. Acta Medica Scandinavica.1951Vol.139;69-72. Blood. 1966;27:328-342.

How Medical Care Advances:

Toxicity of Therapy

Where does the standard of care come from?

Clinical Trials!

What are Clinical Trials?

- Cancer clinical trials are:
 - Carefully controlled research studies
 - Conducted by doctors to improve the care and treatment of cancer patients
- The aim of a clinical trial is to:
 - Study a new therapy or a new use for an already approved therapy
- Compare a <u>new treatment</u> with a <u>standard treatment</u> to find out which one works better and/or has fewer side effects
- Each cancer clinical trial has a written detailed study design called a <u>written protocol</u>.
 - What drug or drug(s) are being tested.
 - Safety measures throughout the clinical trial program.
 - Who is eligible for the clinical trial.

Clinical trials: A key step in drug development

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approves the new drug for human clinical trials

The drug can now be studied in people in carefully controlled clinical trials

Types of Clinical Trials

<u>Phase 1:</u> investigates for <u>safety and side effects</u>, as well as <u>dosage and best way to give treatment</u>.

Includes 20 or more people

<u>Phase 2: determines how well does it work and safety.</u>

Includes 50 to 300 people

<u>Phase 3:</u> looks at effectiveness, side effects and safety in comparison with other standard treatments

Includes 100s to 1000s of people

Drug receives FDA approval, it's available to everyone, and it might become standard practice!

Phase 4: gathers more information after FDA approval

Randomized clinical trials (Phase 3): Getting assigned to a group

Many cancer clinical trials are "randomized" to enable doctors to compare <u>new treatments</u> with <u>standard</u> <u>treatments</u>.

Patients are divided into different groups at random:

- "Control group" receives the best standard treatment available
- "Treatment group" receives the treatment under study

Randomization

Investigational or study group

gets study drug

What do you think?

If I enter a clinical trial, there's a good chance that I could receive a placebo

Fact: Placebos are rarely used in cancer clinical trials

Fact or Myth

Fact: There are clinical trials for people at every stage of disease

Fact: Treatment on a clinical trial has as good a chance for success as standard treatment

Fact: Your doctor may not be aware or remember that there is clinical trial for you.

Fact: Never! You can stop your participation on a clinical trial at **ANY TIME** and for **ANY** reason.

What do you think?

If I enter a clinical trial, I'll be a "guinea pig"

Fact: Clinical trials provide patients either the best treatment currently available, or a new and possibly more effective therapy

Clinical trial protocols ensure that patients are closely monitored

- Patients get a lot of attention and support!
- Patients are watched closely by their doctor, as well as other members of their medical team and research team to ensure their safety.

Safety in clinical trials

- Sponsor asks outside experts to review merit of study.
- Many centers have a protocol review committee and a safety board to review the trial before its approved.
- Institutional Review Board (committee of experts):
 - Looks at trial's scientific, legal and ethical merit.
 - Are risks minimized and reasonable vs. anticipated benefits?
 - Is informed consent process in place and documented? (no coercion or "undue" influence to participate).
 - Does data monitoring include patient safety data?
 - Is there a process to protect privacy of patients?

Process of informed consent

- Your doctor must give you an <u>informed consent</u> <u>document</u> before you enroll in a clinical trial.
 - Must be in a language you understand.
 - Ask for a language interpreter if needed.

Bring an advocate!

Ask your doctor to explain anything you don't understand.

Take your time in reading and signing the informed consent form. You may take back your consent to participate at any time.

Selected Novel Drugs Being Explored in Clinical Trials

Third/ Fourth-	Proteasome inhibitors	marizomib, oprozomib, ixazomib	
agents	IMIDs	CC-220	
	Monoclonal antibodies	anti-CD38, anti–CD-138 conjugate, anti- BCMA conjugate, antiSLAM7-conjugate	
	Check Point Inhibitors	Durvalumab, Atezolizumab, Pembrolizumab Nivolumab	
	ВТКі	Ibrutinib, AVL-292	
	HDAC inhibitors	panobinostat,* romidepsin, ricolinostat	
Novel classes of Therapy	Pleiotropic Pathway Modifier	CC:122	
	Kinesin Spindle Inh	ARRY	
	CDK	PD0332991, SCH727965, AT7519	
	BCL antagonist	ABT263	
	HSP90	Ganetespib (STA-9090)	
	SINE XPO antagonist	KPT-330 (Selinexor)	
	FGFR3	TKI258, MFGR1877S	
	17p mutated	Idasanutlin	

Clinical trials...

- Clinical Trials are an important option for everyone!
- **Clinical Trials** can be for newly diagnosed, with limited disease, or advanced disease.
- Clinical Trials are appropriate and safe for people of different ages, genders, and races.
- **Clinical Trials** that include people of ethnicity are critical to knowing if a treatment really works!
- Clinical Trials take into account all the above factors as well as stage of disease, other treatments used, and presence of any other medical conditions to assure safety.

Remember...<u>communication</u> with your healthcare team is important in making treatment decisions about standard treatment or clinical trial treatment!

Thank You! For Your Time and Attention