# Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma (NHL): Diagnosis, Treatment and Side Effect Management



1

#### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- Describe the various types and subtypes of NHL
- Identify tests used to diagnose disease and monitor treatment of NHL
- Explain the overarching goals of treatment for the types of NHL
- Explain approved and emerging treatment options for NHL, including CAR T-cell therapy and the role of clinical trials
- Describe strategies to manage treatment side effects, as well as potential longterm and late effects of treatments for NHL
- Describe the healthcare professional's role in managing patients with NHL



#### **FACULTY**

#### Matt McKinney, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine Duke University School of Medicine Durham, NC

#### Meredith T. Moorman, PharmD, BCOP, CPP

Clinical Pharmacist – Adult Outpatient Leukemia & Lymphoma Clinic Duke Blood Cancer Center Durham, NC



3

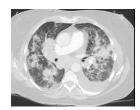
# Overview and Update on Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma

Matt McKinney, MD Assistant Professor of Medicine Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, NC matthew.mckinney@duke.edu



#### Case

- 59-year-old woman with no significant medical history
   Presents to ED with abdominal pain, fatigue, dyspnea and cough.
- Respiratory status worsens requiring intubation, mechanical ventilation.
- Liver biopsy shows diffuse large B cell lymphoma LDH = 545 U/L (ULN 200 U/L).
- · What is the stage of this patient's cancer?
- What is the prognosis of this patient?
- What treatment would you recommend?



CT chest prior to treatment

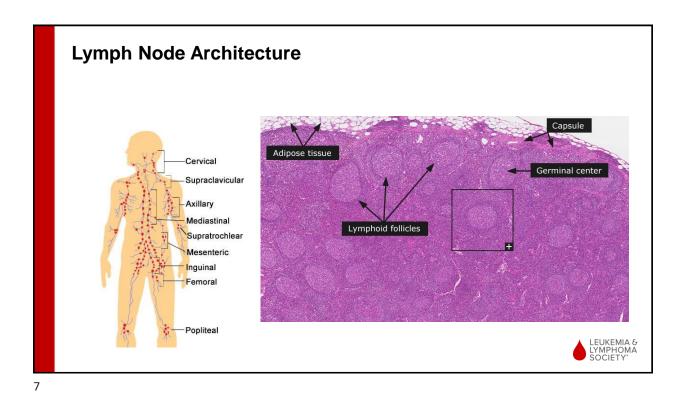


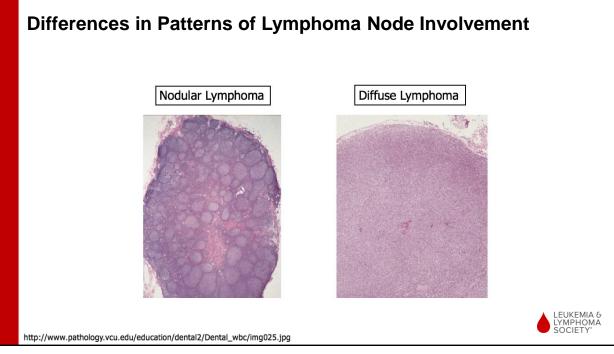
5

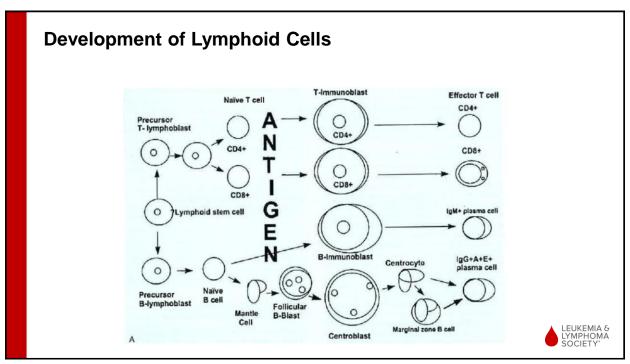
#### What is Lymphoma?

- Lymphomas are cancers that form from part of the blood/lymph system
- There are now more than 50 lymphoma diagnoses recognized by the World Health Organization
- Understanding the immune system is helpful to understanding how lymphoma forms in the body









**Lymphomas Reflect Stages of Normal Lymph Cells** (B-cell Lymphomas) GCB DLBCL Follicular lymphoma Burkitt lymphoma BCL2 (t 14;18) ABC DLBCL Multiple myeloma NFkB Pro-B cell Pre-B cell Naive mature B cell Plasmablast Plasma cell Germinal center reaction Mantle cell lymphoma AID - Somatic hypermutation Bone marrow hematopoiesis BCL2 MYC - NFkB BCL6 p21 LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY"

#### **Lymphoma Classification Schemes**

The 5th edition of the World Health Organization Classification of Haematolymphoid Tumours: Lymphoid Neoplasms

WHO-HAEM5. Leukemia 2022;36(8):1720-1748.

SPECIAL REPORT | SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

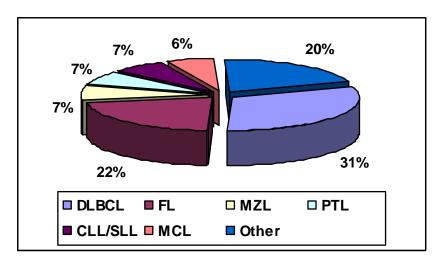
The International Consensus Classification of Mature Lymphoid Neoplasms: a report from the Clinical Advisory Committee

ICC. Blood. 2022;140(11):1229-1253.

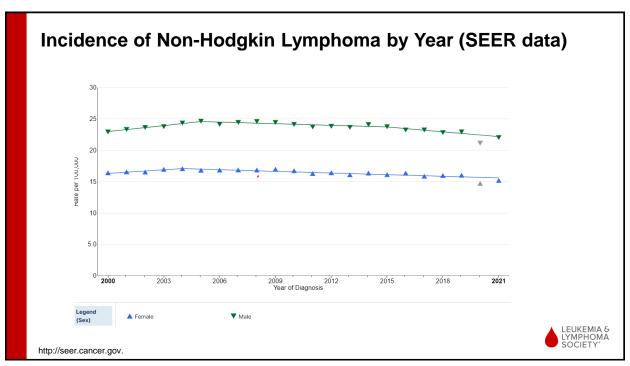


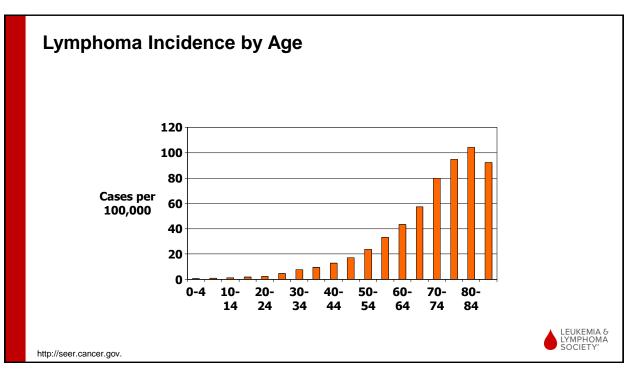
11

#### **Distribution of Lymphoma Subtypes**









## **Epidemiology of Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma in Rheumatoid Arthritis**

489 patients with Rheumatoid
Arthritis

Cohort Study

Queen Elizabeth Medical Center,
Birmingham

Population based control

Histologic Type	Observed	Expected	Observed/Ex pected	P Value
Lymphoma	7	.29	24.1	< .001

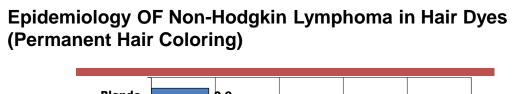
Prior. Am J Med. 1985;78(suppl 1A):15-21.

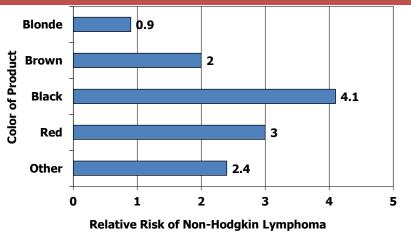
15

## Relative Risk of Developing Lymphoma Within 3 Years of an AIDS Diagnosis

	Relative Risk
Any type of lymphoma	165
Diffuse immunoblastic lymphoma	652
Burkitt lymphoma	261
Intermediate-grade lymphoma	113
Low-grade lymphoma	14
Cote TR, et al. <i>Int J Cancer</i> . 1997;73(5):645-650.	

LYN





Zahm, et al. Am J Public Health. 1992;82:990.

17

#### **Summary 1**

- Lymphoma is a group of cancers that form from blood/immune cells
- · There are many different kinds of lymphomas
- · Incidence increases with age, and prevalence has increased
- Risk appears to be related to exposures + immune environment



LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY'

#### **Questions to Ask at Diagnosis?**

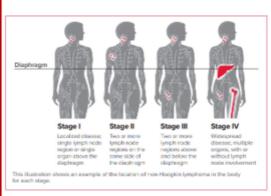
#### Is the biopsy sample adequate to make the diagnosis?

- What is stage?
  - Mostly important for limiting treatment, less for prognosis
- What markers indicate the patient's prognosis?
   Different than same question having to do with staging
- What is the best treatment plan?



19

#### **Lymphoma Staging**

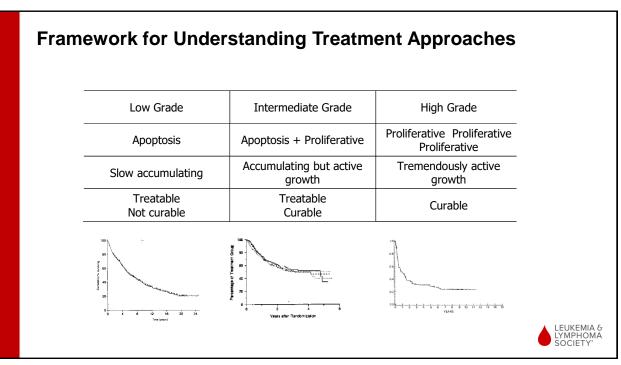


#### Lugano Modification of Ann Arbor Staging Systems (for primary nodal lymphomas)

<u>Stage</u>	Involvement	Extrandoal (E) Status
Limited		
Stage 1	One node of adjacent nodes	Single extranodal lesions without nodal involvement
Stage II	Two or more nodal groups on the same side of the diaphragm	Stage I or II by nodal extent with limited contagious extranodal involvement
Stage II bulky	II as above with "bulky" disease	Not applicable
Advanced		
Stage III	Nodes on the both sides of the diaphragm  Nodes above the diaphragm with spleen involvement	Not applicable
Stage IV	Additional non-contiguous extralymphatic involvement	Not applicable



	Clinical Featu Growth and Inva		Patient's Response to Tumor	Patient's Ability to Tolerate Therapy
	Tumor stage Serum LDH Number of extra no		Performance Status	Performance Status Age
				Overall Survival
Criteri	а	0	+1	100
Age	<del></del>	<60	>60	af
Lactat (LDH)	e dehydrogenase	Normal	Elevated	of Patients
Extran	odal sites	0-1	>1	% — Н
Stage		1-11	III-IV	0



#### **Lymphoma Treatment Options/Modalities**

- Chemotherapy
- Radiation
- Antibody immunotherapies and radioimmunotherapy
- · Small molecule inhibitors
- Stem cell transplant (autologous = self, allogeneic = donor infusion)
- Cell therapy (chimeric antigen receptor modified T-cells = CAR T-cells)
- Bispecific T-cell/antigen engagers



23

#### Low-Grade/Indolent Lymphoma Principles of Treatment

- Early-stage (usually stage I) lymphomas may be amenable to curative radiation treatment
- Otherwise, treatment should be administered only for managing symptoms and using GELF criteria



#### **GELF Criteria**

- Single node >7 cm
- More than 3 nodal sites >3 cm
- Systemic symptom(s)
- · Compression syndrome or serious effusion
- Cytopenia
- Lymphocyte count >50,000/uL

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY'

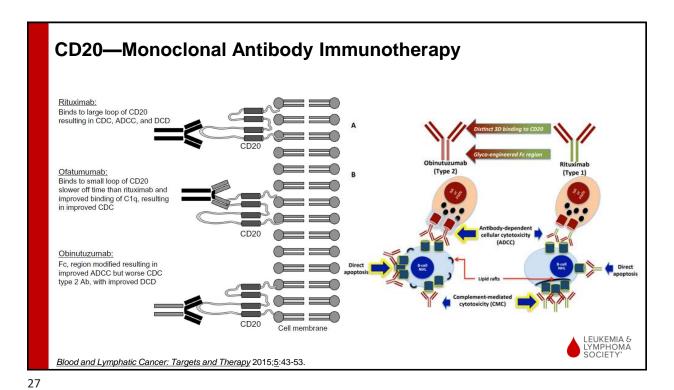
Journal of Clinical Oncology. 1997;15:1110-7.

25

### **Treatment Programs for Indolent Lymphomas** (Advanced Disease)

- Several regimens exist for follicular lymphoma
- Bendamustine-based regimens provide longest response in most patients
- We may be moving toward chemotherapy-free approaches
- Relapsed disease may also be treated with novel agents only





#### **Advanced Follicular Lymphoma Approach**

- I recommend observation for patients not symptomatic from their lymphoma
- If treatment is needed, options range from a chemo-free approach to aggressive regimens such as obinutuzumab-bendamustine
- Each patient's treatment must be individualized based on preferences and underlying health
- Most patients need multiple specific treatment regimens over many years



#### **Principles of Treatment for Aggressive Lymphomas**

- Aggressive lymphomas include diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL), Burkitt lymphoma (BL) and mantle cell lymphoma
- Vast majority of cases are DLBCL
- Goal in DLBCL/BL is CURE
- Burkitt lymphoma requires intense chemotherapy

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY\*

29

#### **CHOP and Rituximab for DLBCL** PATIENTS 3-YEAR Overall Survival CHOP С ···· m-BACOD 223 93 52% Percentage of Treatment Group Cumulative Proportion Surviving - ProMACE-CytaBOM 233 97 50% R-CHOP 80 MACOP-B 93 50% 60 40 20 0 Years after Randomization Coiffier, B. J Clin Oncol; 23:6387-6393 2005 Figure 2. Overall Survival in the Treatment Groups. The three-year estimate is of overall survival. LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY"

#### **DLBCL Summary of Treatment Course**

- We cure more than half of DLBCL with initial chemotherapy
- If lymphoma is not cured with initial program options, include 2<sup>nd</sup> line chemotherapy, bone marrow transplant
- We now have newly approved treatments such as CAR T-cells and novel chemotherapy combinations



31

#### Other Considerations (B-cell Lymphomas)

#### Mantle cell lymphoma

- Behaves aggressively, usually treated with intense therapy and stem cell transplant
- New agents such as ibrutinib, acalabrutinib, venetoclax emerging

#### Marginal zone lymphoma

Usually very indolent often seen in older individuals

#### Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia/lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma

Indolent lymphoma characterized by IgM and complications from antibodies

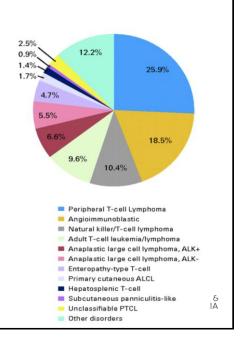
#### **Gastric MALT lymphoma**

 Subset of marginal zone lymphoma can often treat underlying infection driving the lymphoma



#### **Peripheral T-cell Lymphomas**

- Represent ~15% of non Hodgkin lymphoma
- · Many very rare
- Usually treated with aggressive B cell lymphoma regimens and stem cell transplant
- · Newly approved agents now available:
  - Romidepsin/belinostat (HDAC inhibitors)
  - Pralatrexate (anti-folate chemotherapy)
  - · Brentuximab vedotin
  - Mogamulizumab (cutaneous T cell lymphoma)



International T cell lymphoma project. J Clin Oncol. 2008; 26 (25); 4124-30.

33

#### **Updates on Upcoming New Therapies**

#### Novel approaches can be classified into 3 types:

- New applications of existing therapies (i.e. stem cell transplantation in certain subgroups)
- Molecularly targeted agents
  - Specifically pairing characteristics of patient's tumor to a drug
  - May be guided by new laboratory studies
  - Targeted "Smartbomb" delivery of chemotherapy agents in tumor cells
- Immunotherapy
  - Immune "checkpoint" blockade
  - Modified activated T cell therapies

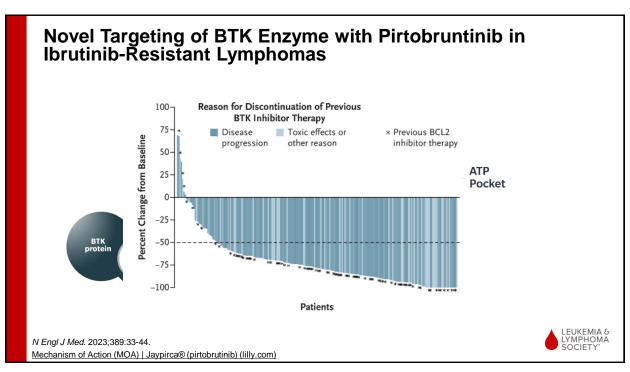


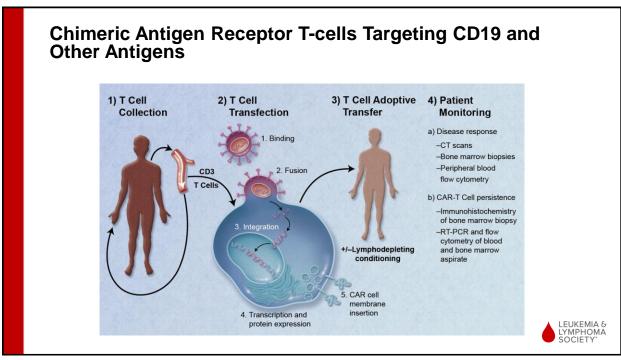
#### Important Recent FDA Approvals for New Lymphoma Drugs

Diffuse large B cell lymphoma	Waldenstrom macroglobulinemia     ibrutinib with rituximab (the only FDA approved therapy in Waldenstrom's)     zanubrutinib
Follicular lymphoma	Mantle cell lymphoma
Marginal zone lymphoma	Cutaneous T cell lymphoma/peripheral T cell lymphoma  mogamulizumab brentuximab vedotin in front line PTCL treatment

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY'

35





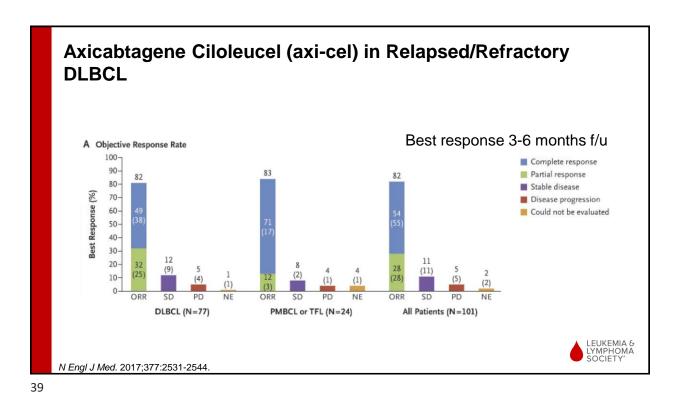
CTL019 is Designed to Hunt and Destroy CD19-Positive B-cell Cancers in Patients

Antibody-coated Beads

T-cell activation/ Transduction\*

Transduction\*

Figure courtesy of Novartis.



4/18 PET CT

63 yo man with DLBCL

Treated with:

• rituximab-EPOCH/MTX

• rituximab-ICE

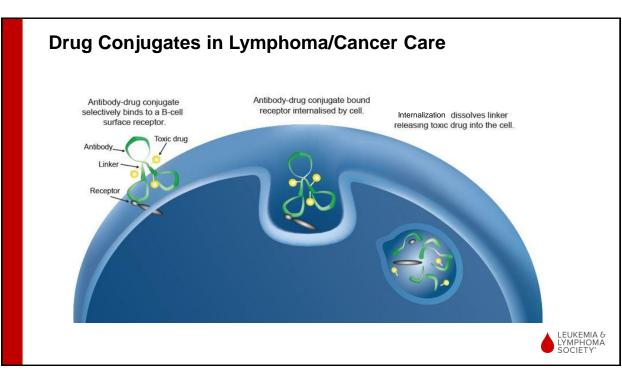
• 4/24/18 axi-cel infusion
• (post collection/chemo)

#### **CAR T-cell Treatment in Lymphomas**

- B-cell lymphoma can be treated with CAR T-cells directed against the CD19 protein (among others)
- Response rates high in studied patients with lymphoma where other therapies have failed
- Therapy is complicated, expensive and requires inpatient hospitalization for side effect monitoring
- Numerous trials are now evaluating CAR T-cells for other lymphoma types
  - Mantle cell lymphoma trial completed and will be presented at ASH meeting next month
  - More FDA approvals are likely to come in the next year



41



#### Polatuzumab Vedotin: CD79B/MMAE ADC in DLBCL

AE, n (%) (n = 39)(n = 39)39 (100) 38 (97.4) Pts with ≥ 1 AE Grade 5\* 7 (17.9) 7 (17.9) Serious AE 20 (51.3) 20 (51.3) Serious AE in ≥ 3% pts 10 (25.6) Infections 8 (20.5) Febrile neutropenia 4 (10.3) 2 (5.1) Neutropenia 3 (7.7) 4 (10.3) Pyrexia 1 (2.6) Peripheral neuropathy 15 (38.5) NR ■ Grade 2 7 (17.9) Grade 3/4 AE 33 (84.6) 26 (66.7) Grade 3/4 AE in ≥ 10% of pts Neutropenia 18 (46.2) 14 (35.9) Febrile neutropenia 4 (10.3) 2 (5.1) Thrombocytopenia 13 (33.3) 8 (20.5) 5 (12.8) Anemia 10 (25.6) 7 (17.9) Infections 7 (17.9)

· Ph 2 randomized trial

	BR	BR + pola
N	39	39
ORR	33%	70%
PET-CR	18%	40%
Median PFS	2.0 mo	7.6 mo
Median OS	4.7 mo	12.4 mo

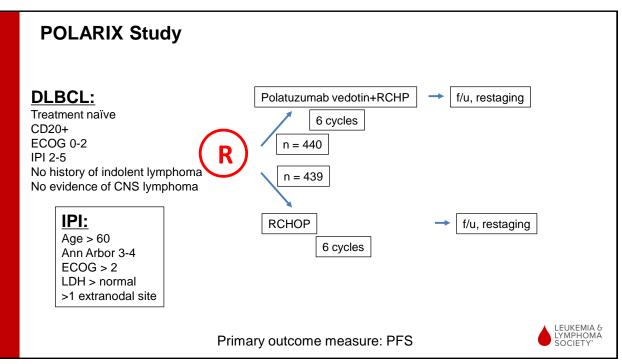
- >70% of patients had 2+ prior lines of therapy
  - · Prior SCT: 20%
  - · Refractory to prior therapy: 80%
- Pola toxicities: PN limited to Gr 2, leading to d/c or modification in 4%
  - Gr 3/4 tox mostly heme; additive to BR, but similar to R + GemOx
  - 46% of pts in pola arm completed planned tx (vs. 18% in BR arm)
  - 33% d/c due to AE, but 54% modification due to AE

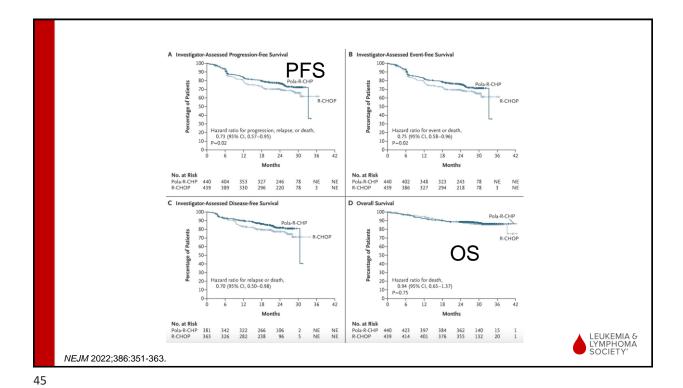
FDA approved in combination with BR for r/r DLBCL, at least two prior therapies.

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY"

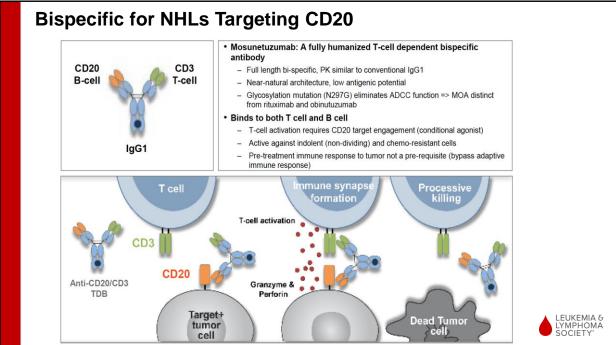
Sehn et al., ASH 2018, 1683.

43





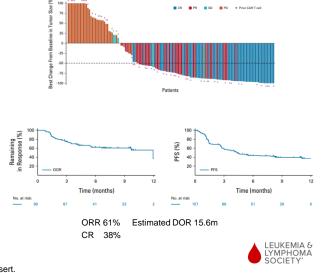
Diamarifia fan NIII a Tana



#### Epcoritamab (GEN3013) in LBCL

- CD3xCD20 bispecific antibody
- SQ administration
- Mandatory hospitalization 24h after C1D15

Cycle of treatment <sup>a</sup>	Day of treatment	Dose of EF	KINLY
	1	Step-up dose 1	0.16 mg
Cycle 1	8	Step-up dose 2	0.8 mg
Cycle I	15	First full dose	48 mg
	22	48 mg	
Cycles 2 and 3	1, 8, 15 and 22	48 n	ng
Cycles 4 to 9	1 and 15	48 n	ng
Cycle 10 and beyond 1		48 n	ng
a Cycle = 28 days			



1) JCO 41;12: 2238-2247. 2) FDA Epcoritamab (Epkenly™) package insert.

47

#### New Agents in Lymphoma and What to Look for Next

- Novel cell therapies and new agents are offering new options for patients across diseases
- Treatment of chemotherapy-refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma is an example of progress in the field
- Upcoming advances to look for include:
  - Better combination treatments for T-cell lymphomas
  - CAR T-cell approvals outside of DLBCL (e.g., mantle cell or aggressive FL)
  - Bispecific antibodies
  - Chemotherapy-free approaches
  - New molecules, new cell products



#### **Summary 2**

- There are many complex treatment programs for various lymphomas
- Hopefully, we will continue to develop new treatments and cure more patients



49

#### **Thank You!**



# The Role of the Pharmacist in Treatment of Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Patients

Meredith T. Moorman, PharmD, BCOP, CPP
Clinical Pharmacist – Adult Outpatient Leukemia & Lymphoma Clinic
Duke Blood Cancer Center, Durham, NC
meredith.moorman@duke.edu



51

#### **Primary Roles for Clinical Pharmacists**

- · Providing education
- · Drug interaction review
- · Chemotherapy dosage adjustments
- Supportive care
  - Antiemetics
  - Growth factor utilization
  - Infection prophylaxis
- Tumor lysis syndrome prevention, monitoring and treatment
- · Viral reactivation monitoring
- Therapeutic drug monitoring
- · Medication access and regulatory compliance
- · Prior authorization and patient assistance



#### **Providing Education to Patients and Other Providers**

- Review anticipated side effects of chemotherapy regimens
  - Focus on most common or most significant toxicity with initial education
  - Repeated interactions with patient can cover broader list of adverse effects
  - Often discrepancy in most concerning toxicity for providers vs. patients
- Review treatment schedules (can often be complex and confusing)
  - Combination of oral and IV chemotherapy agents
  - Scheduling of supportive care medications
  - Indefinite vs. finite treatment
- Educate other healthcare providers (often nursing colleagues) on new medication approvals—dosing, schedules, administration, common toxicities, indications, etc.



53

#### **Drug Interaction Review**

- Many oral chemotherapy agents are metabolized by cytochrome P450 enzymes and subject to drug interactions
- PGP interactions can also be problematic
- Review concomitant medications to determine if dose modifications are needed
- Commonly interfering drug classes include antifungals, cardiac medications and anti-seizure medications
- Other drug or diet interactions that may alter clearance of a chemotherapy agent through different mechanisms (e.g., high-dose methotrexate and carbonated beverages)
- · Provide guidance on herbal products and supplements



#### **Chemotherapy Dosage Adjustments**

- Ensure all necessary diagnostic testing completed prior to starting chemotherapy
  - Monitoring of cardiac function prior to starting anthracyclines (e.g., echocardiogram)
  - Pulmonary function tests prior to bleomycin use
- Specific dose adjustments for many agents based on liver and renal dysfunction
- Also monitor lifetime doses of some medication(s)/medication classes
  - Anthracyclines: maximum lifetime dose to limit cardiotoxicity
    - Electronic medical record (EMR) may include progress tracker
  - Bleomycin: maximum lifetime dose to limit pulmonary toxicity



55

#### **Supportive Care Recommendations**

- · Follow established guidelines (such as those through National Comprehensive Cancer Network, NCCN)
- · Antiemetics: risk category determined by chemotherapy medications
  - Additional patient-specific factors may influence risk of regimen
- Growth factor utilization (pegfilgrastim or filgrastim products)
  - Does chemotherapy regimen qualify for primary prophylaxis of neutropenic fever?
- · Infection prophylaxis
  - Becoming more common with introduction of chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) and bispecific T-cell engager (BITE) therapies
- · Tumor lysis syndrome (TLS)
  - Determine patient risk and suggest prophylaxis for intermediate and high-risk patients (e.g., allopurinol or febuxostat)
  - Quick clinical interventions for patients with laboratory and/or clinical signs of TLS (rasburicase for hyperuricemia, phosphate binders for hyperphosphatemia, etc.)



#### **Viral Reactivation Monitoring & Therapeutic Drug Monitoring**

#### **Viral reactivation**

- Hepatitis B (and C)
  - Determine status prior to treatment to determine risk of reactivation
  - Selection of appropriate prophylactic antiviral therapy if patient at risk for viral reactivation
  - Generally continue for at least 6-12 months after completion of causative chemotherapy agent (e.g., rituximab, obinutuzumab)
- · CMV: baseline and serial monitoring

#### Therapeutic drug monitoring

- · Commonly used with high-dose methotrexate-containing regimens
- · Clearance can be impacted by many other drug classes and/or carbonated beverages



57

#### **Medication Access**

- Authorization for medication required prior to use (prior authorization for oral medications)
- · Limited distribution channels for some oral medications
- Minimize or eliminate financial barriers to treatment:
  - Utilization of grants (such as those provided by LLS) to offset copay costs
  - Navigating manufacturer programs that could provide free medication



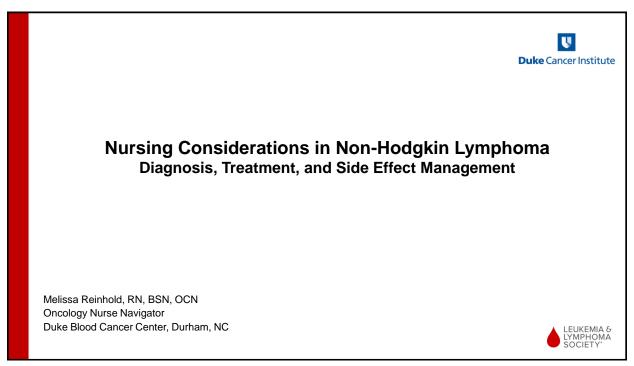
#### **Regulatory Compliance**

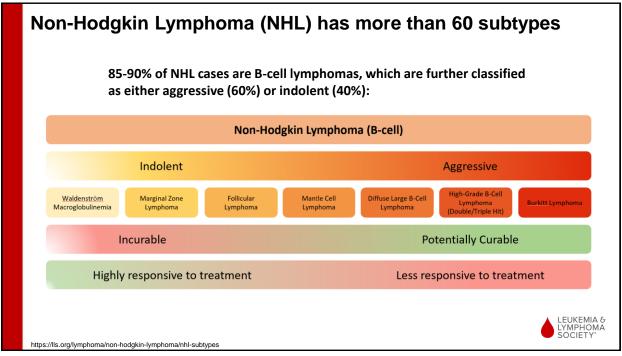
- Many new therapies have Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) programs associated with their approval and use
  - REMS programs can vary significantly in complexity
  - Some as simple as patient and/or provider education
  - Codes required before dispensing dose (lenalidomide authorization codes)
- CAR-T products: education on risk of cytokine release syndrome (CRS) and immune effector cell associated neurotoxicity (ICANS), completion of tests and documentation of tocilizumab availability/supply
- Pharmacists can often play a significant role in management and/or oversight of these programs



59







#### **Diagnosis | Physical & Patient Presentation**

#### Lymphadenopathy

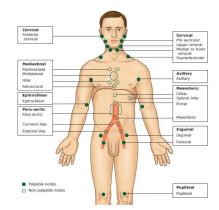
- · Present in more than two-thirds of patients with NHL at presentation
- · Generally firm and painless
- Rapidly-growing mass in aggressive lymphomas vs. waxing/waning lymphadenopathy over months or years in indolent lymphomas

#### Constitutional "B" symptoms

- Unexplained fever (>100.4F)
- · Night sweats (drenching)
- Unintentional weight loss (>10% of body weight over past 6 months)

#### · Lab abnormalities

- · Anemia, thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, and/or lymphocytosis
- Elevated LDH
- Splenomegaly, hepatomegaly
- · Fatigue, pruritis, skin changes, cough, dyspnea



Freedman AS et al. UpToDate. August 2024.



63

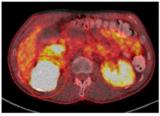
#### **Diagnosis | Biopsy**

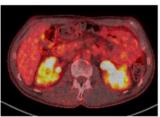
- For patients suspected to have an NHL based on clinical or laboratory findings, analysis of an involved lymph node or other involved tissue is required
- Whenever possible, the biopsy specimen should be obtained before administration of a glucocorticoid to avoid interference with analysis
- An excisional lymph node biopsy is preferred; incisional or multiple core biopsies are acceptable
  - Fine needle aspiration is generally not acceptable, as it does not enable evaluation of the lymph node architecture, which is need to classify the lymphoma
- If no lymph node is accessible, biopsy of a site of extranodal involvement, liver, or bone marrow is acceptable



Freedman AS et al. UpToDate. August 2024

#### **Diagnosis | Imaging**





- Whole-body PET, using 18F-fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG), with concurrent CT is preferred for initial staging and assessing response to therapy for most NHL subtypes
- Although most categories of nodal NHL are FDG-avid, certain histologic subtypes are variably FDG-avid or non-avid
- PET has inconsistent usefulness for indolent lymphomas, but it may be helpful in some circumstances (e.g., to identify a preferred biopsy site if aggressive transformation is suspected)



Freedman AS et al. UpToDate. August 2024.

65

#### **Diagnosis | Imaging PET Education Points for Patients**

- Do not eat or drink for six hours before your test (except plain water). Do not suck or chew candy, gum, or lozenges.
- Limit intense physical activity 24 hours prior to the exam
- You can take medications for pain or anxiety prior to the procedure to lessen any fear or physical discomfort you may have
- There are no contraindications to FDG. The injection of the radioactive tracer is free from any side effects and is painless. Allergic reactions to FDG are extremely rare.
- Depending on imaging needs, the scan typically lasts 45-90 minutes.

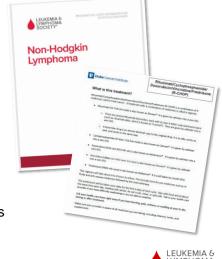




https://www.cancer.gov/publications/dictionaries/cancer-terms/def/pet-scan

## **Diagnosis | Nursing Considerations & Interventions at Diagnosis**

- · Provide education
  - · LLS disease booklets & fact sheets
  - · Chemotherapy teaching sheets
  - · Treatment calendars
  - · When and how to call to report symptoms
- Assess barriers to care (e.g., transportation, communication, caregiver support, health literacy)
- Place early referrals (e.g., counseling, palliative care, social work, self-imaging, nutrition)
- · Recommend financial resources, grants, support groups





67

# Diagnosis | Nursing Considerations & Interventions at Diagnosis \*\*Total Consideration | Consi

## Treatment | A Non-Comprehensive List of Treatment Options for Patients with NHL

Antibody Treatment	Chemotherapy	Corticosteroids	Bispecific Antibodies
Rituximab	Bendamustine	Prednisone	Mosunetuzumab-axgb
Obinutuzumab	Carboplatin	Dexamethasone	Glofitamab-gxbm
Tafasitamab-cxix	Cisplatin	Methylprednisolone	Epcoritamab-bysp
Mogamulizumab	Cyclophosphamide	Immunomodulators	Small Molecule Inhibitors
Antibody-Drug Conjugates	Doxorubicin	Lenalidomide	Ibrutinib
Brentuximab vedotin	Etoposide	CAR T-Cell Therapy	Acalabrutinib
Polatuzumab vedotin	Gemcitabine	Axicabtagene ciloleucel	Zanubrutinib
Loncastuximab tesirine-lpyl	Methotrexate	Tisagenlecleucel	Pirtobrutinib
Stem Cell Transplant	Oxaliplatin	Lisocabtagene maraleucel	Venetoclax
Autologous SCT	Vinblastine	Brexucabtagene autoleucel	Watch & Wait
Allogeneic SCT	Vincristine	Radiation	
			▲ LEUKEMIA

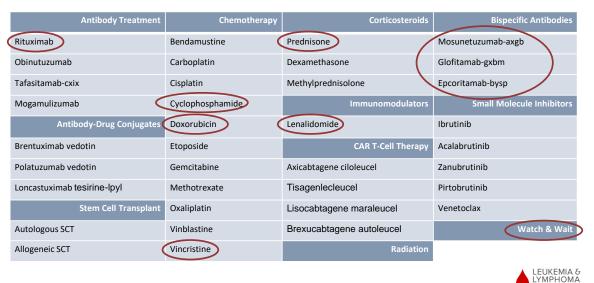
PDQ® Adult Treatment Editorial Board. PDQ Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Treatment. Bethesda, MD: National Cancer Institute. Updated 08/22/2024. Available at: https://www.cancer.gov/types/lymphoma/patient/adult-nhl-treatment-pdq.

PDQ® Adult Treatment Editorial Board. PDQ Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Treatment. Bethesda, MD: National Cancer Institute.

LEUKEMIA 8 LYMPHOMA SOCIETY"

69

## Treatment | A Non-Comprehensive List of Treatment Options for Patients with NHL



#### Treatment | Chemoimmunotherapy: R-CHOP

R	= Rituximab
С	= Cyclophosphamide
н	= Doxorubicin <b>H</b> ydrochloride
0	<ul><li>Vincristine sulfate</li><li>(Oncovin)</li></ul>
Р	= Prednisone

Emetic risk	<b>High</b> Antiemetics recommended prophylactically and for breakthrough n/v
Febrile neutropenia risk	Intermediate G-CSF may be considered based on patient risk factors
Treatment duration	21-day cycle for 4-6 cycles Dependent upon stage at diagnosis & interim restaging response



National Cancer Institute. Updated 05/10/2023. Available at: https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/drugs/r-chop.

71

#### Treatment | Chemoimmunotherapy: R-CHOP

R = Rituximab

- **Infusion reactions** are common. Premedicate, monitor for, and treat infusion reactions per institutional protocol. Modify infusion duration, rate escalation, and premedication regimen based on patient tolerance.
- Severe mucocutaneous reactions, some with fatal outcomes, can occur.
   Monitor closely for painful sores, ulcers, blisters, peeling skin, rash, or pustules to skin, lips, or mouth.
- Screen patients prior to initiating treatment given risk of hepatitis B reactivation. Initiate viral prophylaxis (e.g., entecavir) for those patients at risk.

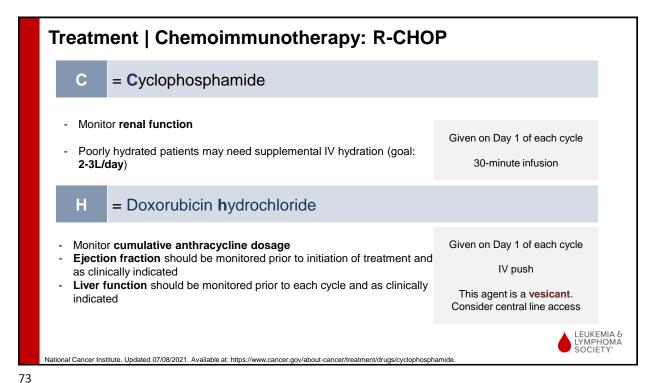
Given on Day 1 of each cycle

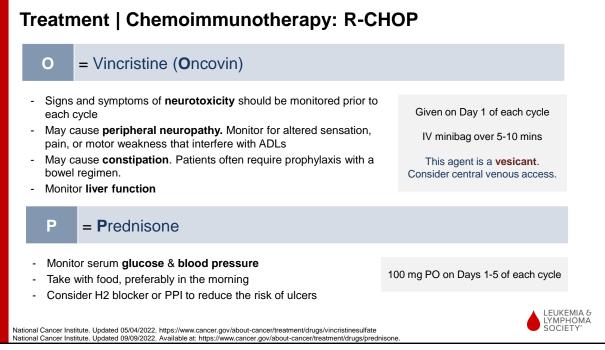
Typically takes up to 8 hours to infuse with cycle one

Can be given as a "rapid infusion" over ~1hr in subsequent cycles if well-tolerated

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA

National Cancer Institute, Updated 06/03/2024, Available at: https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/drugs/rituximal





# Treatment | Chemoimmunotherapy: R-CHOP

## **Other Teaching Points**

- Hair loss or hair thinning is common
  - Wig prescription
  - Referral to self-imaging services and/or counseling
- Urine changes are normal
  - Doxorubicin causes red, pink, orange, or brownish-colored urine
  - May stain clothes
  - Urine discoloration has an obviously different appearance than frank hematuria
  - Expected to last for 1-2 days after each dose is given
- Pancytopenic precautions

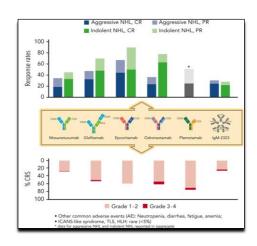




https://www.mskcc.org/cancer-care/patient-education/managing-your-chemotherapy-side-effects https://healthsystem.osumc.edu/pteduc/docs/R-CHOP.pdf#:--text=R-CHOP%20is%20the%20short%20name%20for

75

# **Treatment | Bispecific Antibodies (BsAb)**





# Mosunetuzumab-axgb

(Lunsumio™) R/R FL



Glofitamab-gxbm

(Columvi™) R/R DLBCL or LBCL



Epcoritamab-bysp

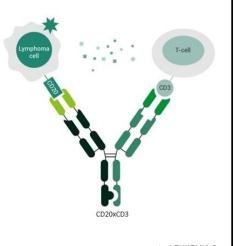
(Epkinly™) R/R DLBCL or FL



https://ashpublications.org/blood/article/141/5/467/486966/Bispecific-antibodies-for-the-treatment-of-B-cell

# **Treatment | Bispecific Antibodies (BsAb)**

- · Novel class of T-cell redirecting drugs
- Activate immune cells by co-targeting both tumor antigens and T-cells
- "Off-the-shelf" immunotherapies are more readily available than CAR T cells
- Remarkable single-agent activity in heavily pretreated patients with B-NHL
- Manageable toxicity profile with rare treatment interruptions or discontinuations





https://ashpublications.org/blood/article/141/5/467/486966/Bispecific-antibodies-for-the-treatment-of-B-cell

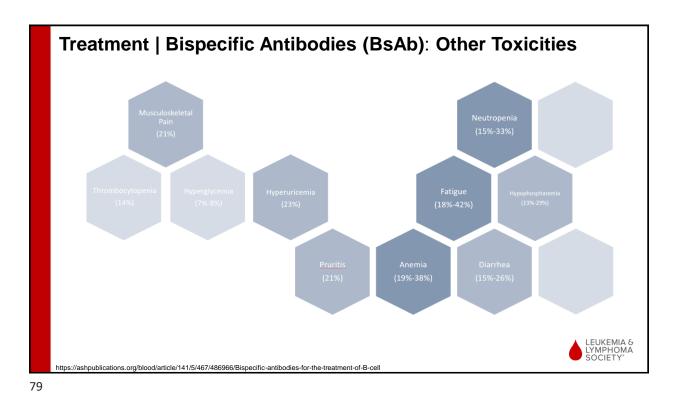
https://ashpublications.org/blood/article/141/5/467/486966/Bispecific-antibodies-for-the-treatment-of-B-cell

77

# Treatment | Bispecific Antibodies (BsAb): T-Cell Overactivation

	Cytokine Release Syndrome (CRS)	Neurotoxicity/ICANS
Symptoms	Chills, fevers, skin rash, hypotension, hypoxia, confusion	Headache, delirium, dysphasia, tremor, lethargy, difficulty concentrating, agitation, confusion, aphasia, depressed level of consciousness, encephalopathy, seizures, cerebral edema
Onset Duration & Grade	- Most frequent toxicity (15%-80%)  - Typically begins 0.5 – 2 days after BsAb administration  - Occurs most frequently and with the greatest severity during the first cycle of therapy and rarely persists beyond the second cycle  - Resolves 1.5-3 days post-administration.  - Most cases are grade 1-2, which resolve spontaneously or with minimal intervention	Uncommonly observed across BsAb trials     Symptoms typically self-resolve within hours of onset     BsAb-associated neurotoxicity is less common and generally of lower grade than CAR T-cell-induced ICANS     Can occur concurrently with CRS
Management	<ul> <li>Step-up dosing</li> <li>Post-administration observation</li> <li>Pre-treatment with obinutuzumab</li> </ul>	
		▲ LEUKEMIA

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY

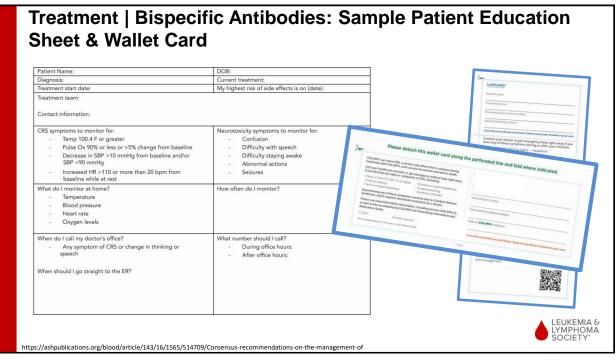


# Treatment | Bispecific Antibodies (BsAb): Patient Education

- Ensure patients have access to a **thermometer**. Blood pressure cuff and pulse oximeter can also be helpful if available to the patient.
- Provide prescription for dexamethasone to use as needed for CRS. Patients should be instructed to administer only after discussing with care team.
- Ideally patients should remain near a facility that stocks tocilizumab during the treatment days with highest risk for development of CRS
- Reinforce clear indications to call the care team
  - Temperature > 100.4F
  - · Clinical symptoms of hypoxia or hypotension
  - · Any change in cognition or speech
- Provide necessary contact information (e.g., after hours/on-call number)
- If experiencing any degree of neurotoxicity, do not drive or operate heavy machinery



https://ashpublications.org/blood/article/143/16/1565/514709/Consensus-recommendations-on-the-management-of



### 81

# **Treatment | Watch-and-Wait**



- Also called "expectant observation" or "active monitoring"
- Standard of care for people whose disease is not widespread and who have no symptoms (certain indolent subtypes).
- Can also be the best approach for patients diagnosed with widespread disease that treatment likely won't cure, but may remain stable for years, letting patients avoid the side effects of needless therapy
- Some blood cancers can be managed successfully for years using watch and wait as the treatment plan



# **Treatment | Watch-and-Wait: Patient Education**

- Understand why Starting treatment too early may:
  - · Have no benefit
  - · Not improve quality of life or increase overall survival
  - Unnecessarily put patients at risk for short- and long-term side effects
  - · Limit treatment options and clinical trial opportunities in the future
  - · Increase drug resistance
- · Know what to report:
  - · Enlarging or new lymph nodes
  - · Enlarging spleen
  - Fevers
- Do not skip appointments with your oncologist or your other doctors, even if you are feeling well
- Maintain health insurance coverage and healthy habits
- Join a support group





83

# **Treatment | Lenalidomide**

- Oral immunomodulatory drug with significant activity in indolent B-cell and mantle cell lymphomas
- Administered as a single agent or in combination with rituximab
- To avoid serious risk to embryo-fetal development, it is available only through a restricted distribution program called the REVLIMID REMS® program that requires enrollment of the patient, physician, and pharmacy
- Typically taken on days 1-21 of a 28-day cycle

Take once daily at the same time each day

Take with or without food

Swallow pills whole. Do not crush, chew, or split.

Skip missed or vomited doses

Store in a cool, dry place



REVLIMID. US. Prescribing Information. Revised 03/2023

# How to receive your first prescription for lenalidomide

### For Females:

### Counseling

Your healthcare provider will counsel you on:

- Why and how you and your partner should prevent pregnancy
- Using 2 effective birth control methods (at least 1 highly effective method and 1 effective method)
- · Not sharing lenalidomide
- Not donating blood
- Not to open, break, chew, or crush lenalidomide capsules or handle them any more than needed



### Pregnancy Test #1

If you can get pregnant, you must take an initial pregnancy test within 10-14 days before getting a lenalidomide prescription



### **Pregnancy Test #2**

If you can get pregnant, you must take a second pregnancy test within 24 hours before getting a lenalidomide prescription



### Enrollment

You and your healthcare provider will then complete and submit the Lenalidomide REMS Patient-Physician Agreement Form



### **Complete Mandatory Confidential Survey**

You and your healthcare provider will each complete a survey. Visit www. REMSPatientSafety.com, access the REMS Companion App, or call 1-888-423-5436 and press 1 to take your survey



### Prescription

Your healthcare provider will send your prescription to a certified pharmacy



### **Pharmacy Call**

The certified pharmacy will call you and will provide counseling on the serious risks and safety rules of Lenalidomide REMS. They will also discuss the delivery of lenalidomide to you



### **Receive Lenalidomide**

Lenalidomide will be shipped to the address you provide. Someone must sign for this shipment



85

# Treatment | Lenalidomide: Common Toxicities (≥15%) Anemia Diarrhea Cough Constipation Neutropenia Fatigue Nausea Upper respiratory infection LEUKEMIA & EVLIMID. US. Prescribing Information. Revised 03/2023.

# **Treatment | Lenalidomide: Patient Education**

- Discuss highly effective, reliable birth control vs. less effective, unreliable birth control
  - Highly effective: IUD, hormonal methods (e.g., birth control pill), tubal ligation, vasectomy, condom
  - Unreliable: progesterone-only "mini-pills," natural family planning ("rhythm method"), withdrawal
- Continue two forms of reliable birth control throughout treatment and for at least four weeks after stopping lenalidomide
- Males must use a latex or synthetic condom every time they have sex with a female who is able to get pregnant, even if they've had a successful vasectomy
- · No breastfeeding while taking lenalidomide
- You must not donate blood or sperm while on therapy and for 4 weeks after stopping lenalidomide

### Who is considered not able to get pregnant?

- You have been in natural menopause for at least 2 years
- You have had both ovaries and/or uterus removed
   You have not yet started your period and are under the age of 18

Highly effective birth control methods effective birth control methods Intrauterine device (IUD) Hormonal methods (birth control pills, hormonal Male latex or patches, injections, vaginal synthetic condom rings, or implants) Diaphragm Tubal ligation (having your tubes tied) Cervical cap Partner's vasectomy (tying of the tubes to prevent the passing of sperm)



REVLIMID. US. Prescribing Information. Revised 03/2023.

87

# Side Effect Management | Anorexia & Dysgeusia

### What causes altered appetite and taste changes?

- · Chemotherapeutic agents
  - Anthracyclines (doxorubicin)
  - Platinum-based (carboplatin, oxaliplatin, cisplatin)
- · Radiation therapy to head & neck
- Disease involvement (head & neck lymphadenopathy)
- · Mucositis, xerostomia, nausea, vomiting, pain
- · Constipation, diarrhea
- · Stress, anxiety, depression

### · Managing loss of appetite

- Eat several small, calorie-dense or protein-rich snacks throughout the day, rather than 3 large meals
- Eat your favorite foods at any time of day (e.g., breakfast for dinner)
- Avoid large volumes of liquids while eating; drink liquids between meals
- Have pre-made food or easy to reach snacks available and within reach

### Prevention

- Regular dental care & good oral hygiene
  - Rinse with baking soda + salt water before and after meals and throughout the day
- · Tobacco and nicotine cessation
- Avoidance of alcohol and alcohol-based mouthwashes
- Staying ahead of nausea, constipation, diarrhea, and pain
- Food diary
- Early referral to registered dietician at cancer center.

### When to call

- · Can't eat or drink for > 24 hours
- Lose >/= 3 pounds in a week
- Don't move bowels for 3 days

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY'

Jatoi A. UpToDate. September 2024

# Side Effect Management | Anorexia & Dysgeusia

### Bitter or metallic taste

- Swap metal cutlery with bamboo or plastic
- · Cook in glassware instead of metal
- Mint, lemon, orange gum/candies to remove bad taste in mouth
- · Counter with a sweetener (e.g., maple syrup)
- · Avoid canned items (soups, sauces)
- Add fresh lemon, lime, orange, or juice if plain water is unappealing

### No taste

- Add bold flavor with herbs, spices, extracts, citrus, vinegar
- · Change the texture or temperature of food
- Try pickled, tart, or sour foods (kimchi) to stimulate taste

### Bad taste or smell

- · Serve foods cold or at room temperature
- · Choose foods that don't need to be cooked
- · Use cups with lids; drink through a straw
- Opt for low-odor alternatives (chicken > beef; turkey > fish)

### **Red meat aversion**

- Substitute other protein-rich foods like chicken, fish, peanut butter, beans, tofu, eggs, cheese
- Marinate meats in fruit juices, sweet wines, salad dressings, or other sauces
- Prepare in combination with other foods (spaghetti sauce, chili, lasagna)



Jatoi A. UpToDate. September 2024.

### 89

# **Side Effect Management | Constipation**

### What causes constipation?

- Certain chemotherapy agents (e.g., vincristine)
- Medications (e.g., opioids, ondansetron [Zofran])
- Not drinking enough fluids
- · Not eating enough fiber
- · Decreased physical activity

### Prevention

- 64oz decaffeinated fluids daily
  - Warm beverages
  - Prune juice
- · Stay as active as possible
- Include high-fiber foods in diet
- Establish a bowel routine/schedule

### When to call

- · No BM in three days
- Moderate to severe abdominal pain, cramping, or distention
- · Vomiting or unable to eat
- · Excessive gas or not passing gas

### **Management**

- Docusate (Colace), polyethylene glycol (MiraLAX), Docusate (Senna-S), psyllium
- Avoid suppositories and enemas unless approved by provider
- If frequent or loose stools develop, decrease your laxatives by one-half



https://www.mskcc.org/cancer-care/patient-education/constipation

# **Side Effect Management | Peripheral Neuropathy**

### What causes neuropathy?

- · Certain chemotherapy agents (e.g., vincristine, MTX)
- Primary disease (e.g., WM)
- Co-morbidities (e.g., HIV, DM, shingles)
- Vitamin deficiencies

### Prevention

- Assess frequently
- · Encourage early reporting
- Consider dose reduction and/or schedule modification
- Avoid smoking and alcohol

### When to report

- · Persistent or worsening symptoms
- Painful and/or impacting QOL (e.g., sleep)
- Limiting ADLs & fine motor skills
- Causing falls or injury

### Management

- · PT/OT to improve fine motor skills, balance, strength
- Massage, acupuncture, TENS
- Supplements (e.g., B12, folic acid)
- Creams (e.g., cocoa butter)
- Pharmaceuticals (e.g., duloxetine)



https://www.cancer.org/cancer/managing-cancer/side-effects/pain/peripheral-neuropathy.html

91

# **Side Effect Management | Cancer-Related Fatigue**

### What causes fatique?

- The disease itself
- Side effect of treatment & medications
- Anemia, hypothyroidism
- Stress, anxiety, depression
- Altered sleep, nutrition, activity

### **Prevention**

- · Identify and address underlying causes
  - Insomnia
  - Anemia, hypothyroidism
  - Poor nutrition

### When to report

- You feel too tired to get out of bed for a 24hour period
- You feel confused, dizzy, lightheaded
- You are losing your balance and/or falling
- You have difficulty waking up
- You have shortness of breath



















s://www.mskcc.org/cancer-care/patient-education/managing-related-fatigue

# Side Effect Management | Cancer-Related Fatigue: Management



**lournal** of Clinical Oncology<sup>6</sup>

Practice Guideline > J Clin Oncol. 2024 Jul 10;42(20):2456-2487. doi: 10.1200/JCO.24.00541.

Management of Fatigue in Adult Survivors of Cancer: ASCO-Society for Integrative Oncology Guideline Update

Julienne E Bower <sup>3</sup>, Christina Lacchetti <sup>2</sup>, Yesne Alici <sup>3</sup>, Debra L Barton <sup>4</sup>, Deborah Bruner <sup>5</sup>, Beverly E Canin <sup>6</sup>, Carmelita P Escalante <sup>7</sup>, Patricia A Ganz <sup>1</sup>, Sheila N Garland <sup>8</sup>, Shilpi Gupta <sup>9</sup>, Heather Jim <sup>10</sup>, Jennifer A Ligibel <sup>11</sup>, Kah Poh Loh <sup>12</sup>, Luke Peppone <sup>13</sup>, Debu Tripathy <sup>7</sup>, iram Yennu <sup>7</sup>, Suzanna Zick <sup>14</sup>, Karen Mustian <sup>12</sup>

Affiliations + expand PMID: 38754041 DOI: 10.1200/JCO.24.00541

Purpose: To update the ASCO guideline on the management of cancer-related fatigue (CRF) in adult

Methods: A multidisciplinary panel of medical oncology, geriatric oncology, internal medicine, psychology, psychiatry, exercise oncology, integrative medicine, behavioral oncology, nursing, and advocacy experts was convened. Guideline development involved a systematic literature review of

### Summary:

Clinicians should recommend exercise, CBT, mindfulnessbased programs, and tai chi or qigong to reduce the severity of fatigue during cancer treatment.

Psychoeducation and American ginseng may be recommended in adults undergoing cancer treatment.

For survivors after completion of treatment, clinicians should recommend exercise, CBT, and mindfulness-based programs; in particular, CBT and mindfulness-based programs have shown efficacy for managing moderate to severe fatigue after treatment.

Yoga, acupressure, and moxibustion may also be recommended.

Patients at the end of life may be offered CBT and corticosteroids.

Clinicians should not recommend L-carnitine. antidepressants, wakefulness agents, or routinely recommend psychostimulants to manage symptoms of



93

# Summary

- Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma (NHL) is a diverse group of lymphomas ranging from indolent to aggressive.
- Treatment is extremely varied. Your NHL patient may encounter everything from observation only to traditional chemo-immunotherapy to novel bispecifics and CAR T-cell
- Access www.NCCN.org for treatment guidelines on B-cell lymphomas
- · High-quality patient education at diagnosis and throughout treatment is essential
  - · Reinforce: When and who to call ·
  - · Review: Supportive medications & side effect management
  - Recognize: Urgent and emergent concerns





# FREE LLS RESOURCES FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

- CME & CE courses: www.LLS.org/CE
- ☐ Fact Sheets for HCPs: www.LLS.org/HCPbooklets
- ☐ Videos for HCPs: www.LLS.org/HCPvideos
- Podcast series for HCPs: www.LLS.org/HCPpodcast





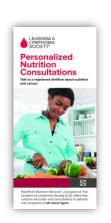


95

# FREE LLS RESOURCES FOR PATIENTS

- □ Information Specialists Personalized assistance for managing treatment decisions, side effects, and dealing with financial and psychosocial challenges (IRC).
  - www.LLS.org/IRC
- Nutrition Education Services Center one-on-one consultation with a registered dietician for patients/caregivers of all cancer types (NESC).
  - www.LLS.org/Nutrition
- Clinical Trial Nurse Navigators RNs and NPs provide a personalized service for patients seeking treatment in a clinical trial, sift through the information and provide information to bring back to their HC team (CTSC).
  - www.LLS.org/CTSC
- Reach out Monday-Friday, 9 am to 9 pm ET
  - o Phone: (800) 955-4572
  - Live chat: <u>www.LLS.org/IRC</u>
  - Email: infocenter@LLS.org
  - o HCP Patient Referral Form: www.LLS.org/HCPreferral







# HERE TO HELP: LLS COMMITMENT

### to providing education & resources to help patients access clinical trials

### **CLINICAL TRIAL SUPPORT CENTER**

- A team of highly trained nurses and nurse practitioners experienced with hematological malignancies and clinical research.
- Provide education to patients about clinical trials, treatment options, and other disease specific information.
- Provide patients, families, and their caregivers with a professional, detailed, individualized search to discuss with their HCP.
- Provide guidance and serve as advocates throughout the clinical trial process. Help make connections between the patient and
  the trial site to facilitate enrollment as appropriate.
- Provide a personal connection and develop long term relationships to help better serve our patients.





97

# FREE LLS RESOURCES FOR PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS

- Webcasts, Videos, Podcasts, booklets:
  - www.LLS.org/Webcasts
  - www.LLS.org/EducationVideos
  - www.LLS.org/Podcast
  - www.LLS.org/Booklets
  - www.LLS.org/Lymphoma

### ■ Support Resources

- ☐ Financial Assistance: <u>www.LLS.org/Finances</u>
  - Urgent Need
  - Patient Aid
  - Travel Assistance
- ☐ Other Support: www.LLS.org/Support
  - LLS Regions
  - Online Weekly Chats Facilitated by Oncology SW
  - LLS Community Social Media Platform
  - First Connection Peer to Peer Program







