Supportive Care: Manage Risk of Infections and Secondary Cancers in CLL



Patients with CLL have a compromised immune system, leading to increased susceptibility to infection and secondary cancer that necessitates timely prevention, recognition, and treatment 1,2

Strategies for infection prevention in patients with CLL

The 5-year risk of severe infections in CLL is 26%3

Recommended vaccinations for patients with CLL^{1,a}

Recombinant hepatitis B

COVID-19 vaccine

Seasonal influenza vaccine





Bacterial infections¹

- No routine antibiotic prophylaxis
- Ig replacement therapy for severe hypogammaglobulinemia and/or recurrent or severe infection
- Monitor ANC



Fungal infections¹

- · Consider prophylaxis in
 - Frail older patients with R/R CLL and/or prolonged neutropenia
 - Those with previous fungal infections
 - Patients receiving chronic, concomitant steroids



Viral infections

- Monitor for infection/ pretreatment of HBV, HCB, HIV, HSV 1/2, VZV, and CMV prior to starting CLL therapy
- If HBV reactivation detected, administer preemptive therapy with antivirals

Strategies to reduce the incidence of secondary primary malignancies in patients with CLL

Standardized incidence ratios^b for second primary cancers after CLL²

All cancer types	1.63
Solid tumors	1.67
Hematologic malignancies	1.42
Melanoma of the skin	2.74
ivieranoma or the skin	2.14
SCC of the skin	4.82



An increased risk of secondary primary malignancies in patients with CLL necessitates timely cancer screening^{2,4}

Cancer screening



Annual dermatologic skin screening is recommended for skin cancer prevention^{4,5}



Cancer screening guidelines should be followed closely for breast, cervical, colon, prostate cancers, and lung cancer (for smokers)^{5,6}

^aAs indicated by clinical practice guidelines. ^bStandard incidence ratio is a ratio of the number of cancers observed in a given population compared with the number expected.

ANC, absolute neutrophil count; CLL, chronic lymphocytic leukemia; CMV, cytomegalovirus; HBV, hepatitis C virus; HIV, human immunodeficiency virus; HSV, herpes simplex virus; Ig, immunoglobulin; R/R, relapsed/refractory; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma; VZV, varicella zoster virus.

^{1.} Rivera D, Ferrajoli A. Curr Oncol Rep. 2022;24(8):1003-1014. 2. van der Straten L, et al. Blood Cancer J. 2023;13(1):15. 3. Grywalska E, et al. Cells. 2020;9(11):2398. 4. Mansfield AS, et al. J Oncol Pract. 2014;10(1):e1-e4. 5. Welch A. Accessed October 25, 2023. https://www.onclive.com/view/recognizing-secondary-malignancies-in-cll. 6. Schneider MA. Accessed February 1, 2024. https://ashpublications.org/ashclinicalnews/news/7672/When-a-Cure-Isn-t-an-Option.