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Mercure Sophia Antipolis Sophia Antipolis & France

Infectious Complications of New Drugs and Biotherapies in Hematology

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General Decision

- Aim at Expert Report rather than guideline
 - Infections
 - Approach to latent TB
 - Differential diagnosis and management of immune-related adverse events



Ibrutinib: Treatment Recommendations

- For documented infections: see previous ECIL guidelines
- For non-infectious pneumonitis: withdrawal of ibrutinib and steroids
 - See the part on grading and management of pneumonitis



Ibrutinib: Burning Questions and Areas for Further Research

- Urgent need for prospective and high quality data on infectious AEs
- Pre-ibrutinib assessments:
 - Hepatitis B and C (E? no data for ibrutinib) serology => ECIL guideline if seropositive
 - TB => specific slides
- Antimicrobial prophylaxis
 - Anti-mould prophylaxis in patients receiving concomitantly high dose steroids (e.g. CNS lymphoma) (drug-drug interaction with vori; dose reduction and TDM? L-AmB?)
 - Anti-PcP in patients with additional risk factors (e.g. recent FCR therapy)
 - Latent tuberculosis => specific slides
 - Role and effectiveness of vaccination in ibrutinib-treated patients unclear
- Monthly intravenous immunoglobulin therapy in patients with low IgG levels in pts with ≥1 previous serious infection



Idelalisib: Recommendations

- PcP: prophylaxis with trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (included in the label now, but weak evidence)
- CMV serostatus for all patients before treatment administration
- For CMV-negative patients: CMV-negative or filtered blood products
- CMV-pos.: CMV antigen/PCR monitoring
- If positive PCR/ag with increasing viral load: pre-emptive anti-CMV treatment
 - No recommendation for idelalisib discontinuation
- Symptoms consistent with CMV disease
 - Anti-CMV treatment
 - Discontinuation of idela until CMV resolution should be considered



Infections in Ruxolitinib-Treated Patients Recommendations (1)

- **Patients presenting with fever** should be carefully evaluated for serious infections
 - Think of bacterial infection first: urinary tract, pneumonia, sepsis
 - No routine AB prophylaxis
 - Apart from Zoster, no increased risk of opportunistic infections by ruxolitinib
 - Usually no ruxolitinib discontinuation in a patient with typical bacterial infection
 - In case of discontinuation, keep in mind "Ruxolitinib withdrawal syndrome" (respiratory distress, progression of splenomegaly, fever or pruritus, mimicking an infection)



Infections in Ruxolitinib-Treated Patients *Recommendations (2)*

- HBV screening in all patients
- In patients with indication for treatment or prophylaxis: ECIL guideline (*Mallet et al*)
- Screening for latent tuberculosis

- See specific slides



Venetoclax: Summary and Recommendations

Patients with fever/infection and neutropenia

Standard supportive care measures. G-CSF used with good response in this setting

Discontinuation or dose reduction of the drug (package insert)

- Neutropenia without infection: dose reduction or interruption; permanent discontinuation is rare.
- Infection without neutropenia: usually manageable without dose adjustment

Deeks ED. Drugs 2016 Freise KJ et al. Clin Pharmacokinet 2017 Roberts AW et al. N Engl J Med 2016



mTOR Inhibitors (Sirolimus, Temsirolimus, Everolimus) and Infection: Recommendations

- High level of alertness for infections
- No specific measures for prophylaxis
- No specific diagnostic approach in case of fever
- Consider drug-induced lung disease



Infections in Patients on HDAC Inhibitors: Recommendations

- No clear evidence of HDACi attributable increase in the risk of infection or infection-related mortality
- No rationale for specific prophylaxis
- No rationale for specific diagnostic procedures in case of fever after treatment including HDACi in pts with hematologic malignancies
- **No data** indicating the need for screening for HBV
- No evidence to withhold treatment including HDACi in pts with active infection
- HDACi use in HIV-positive pts with hematological malignancies does not seem to increase the risk of HIV activation



Brentuximab Vedotin: Recommendations for Screening

- JC serology: insufficient negative predictive value
- No specific BV-related risk for CMV, but patient group in general
- CMV => consistency with CMV group
- Take risk into consideration, but no routine CMV monitoring



Recommendations for BV Drug Discontinuation

- PML => discontinue
- DILD => discontinue => re-challenge (individual decision)
- Pneumonia => no data to support recommendation of discontinuation
- Herpesvirus reactivation => no data to support recommendation of discontinuation
- Febrile neutropenia => stop until resolution of G3-4 neutropenia



Blinatumomab: Prophylaxis and Drug Discontinuation

- No specific signals of increased infection rate
 - Double-check with the Würzburg group if we missed something
- Discontinuation or dose reduction in case of infection according to package insert
- Ig level monitoring for ≥2 years and IgG
 supplementation in case of low IgG concentration after
 ≥1 serious infection



Anti-PD1 & Anti-CTLA4 Antibodies: Diagnosis and Treatment of Fever/Infection

- In case of fever, rule out infectious cause
- **Usually** infection results from immunosuppression given for immune-mediated complication
 - Consider different background of patient affected
- If infection is diagnosed, treat accordingly and continue drug



Anti-PD1 & Anti-CTLA4 Antibodies: Recommendations for Prophylaxis

- PcP prophylaxis in patients with secondary immunosuppression (IrAE) for at least 4 weeks (=> ECIL guideline)
- No data on vaccination available (consistent with vaccination group)





Approach to Latent Tuberculosis

- Evaluation before: generally recommended, but routine only for ruxolitinib
- Screening: history of active TB in household contacts; suspect finding indicating prior/latent TB on imaging (CT scan; chest radiograph); social background; patient reporting new TB contact; profession
- Complete work-up: positive IGRA or TST; history of TB not adequately treated; suspect finding indicating active TB



Which Patients Should Receive Preventive TB **Therapy**

- No active TB in work-up, but
 - Positive IGRA, positive TST in a non-vaccinated patient
 - History of TB not fully treated
 - Abnormal chest imaging suggesting past TB inadequately treated
- No need for preventive TB therapy after active TB treatment completion



Preventive TB Treatment

- Options: isoniazide 6 months; rifampicin 3 months*
 - Consider drug toxicity (liver, drug interactions)
 Consider TB multi-drug resistance
- Delay the start of hematological drug 3-4 weeks if possible (e.g., ruxo for MF)

*Getahun H et al, N Engl J Med 2015 *Meta-Analysis: Zenner D et al, Ann Intern Med 2017



Hepatitis:

Viral Reactivation or Immune-Related? Recommendation for all drugs addressed

- Rule out (reactivation of) viral infection
- If negative, consider biopsy



Diagnostic Guidelines for Lung CT Scan in Hematology Pts



Look for relevant elementary abnormality « Pathological reading » (correlations CT scan / histopathology) Check consistency of associated lesions



Management of Lung Infiltrates in Hematological Pts

Lung infiltrates on lung CT scan				Develop hypotheses					
Assess immunosuppression profile		\rightarrow	Consider antiinfectious A prophylaxis			Ap to	ppreciate susceptibility to different pathogens		
Clinical data Little discriminating		\rightarrow	Lung + other organ?		Fever		Control of hemopathy		
Blood biology according to diagnostic hypotheses			Blood cultures, PCR CMV, HSV, fungi, <i>Aspergillus</i> galactomannan, β-D glucan, BNP, CRP, blood cell count						
Evaluate respiratory condition									
Favorable:	Ris	Risk/benefit ratio for Bronchoscopy-BAL					Unfavorable:		
BLOUCUO-BAL						_ L	Noninvasive	tests	
Bronchial biopsies if abnormalities Extensive search for pathogens: bacteria, mycobacteria, fungi (including PCR PcP), multiplex for respiratory viruses BAL cell count							Sputum examination		
		Check	consistency of all data		l data		mycobacteria and fungi; Induced sputum		
		Lung biopsy should be exception; discuss case l CT scan guided			e an oy case		<i>(P. jirovecii</i>) nasopharyn aspirate for v multiplex	i); geal viral	

Management of lung infiltrates in suspected drug-induced pneumonitis

