

What's on the Horizon for Chronic Myeloid Leukemia?



# Welcome & Introductions

Dr. Mauro's slides are available for download at [www.LLS.org/programs](http://www.LLS.org/programs)



Wednesday, September 27, 2017

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## What's on the Horizon for Chronic Myeloid Leukemia?

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# Disclosure

**Michael J. Mauro, MD**, has affiliations with Bristol Myers Squibb and Pfizer (*Consulting*); Novartis Oncology and Takeda (*Grant Support*).

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

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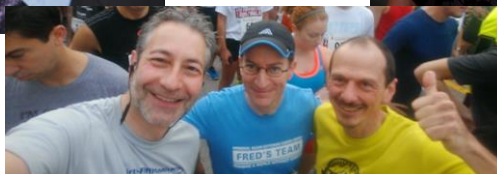
Prof. H. Jean Khoury, Atlanta



Prof. Tessa Holyoake, Glasgow

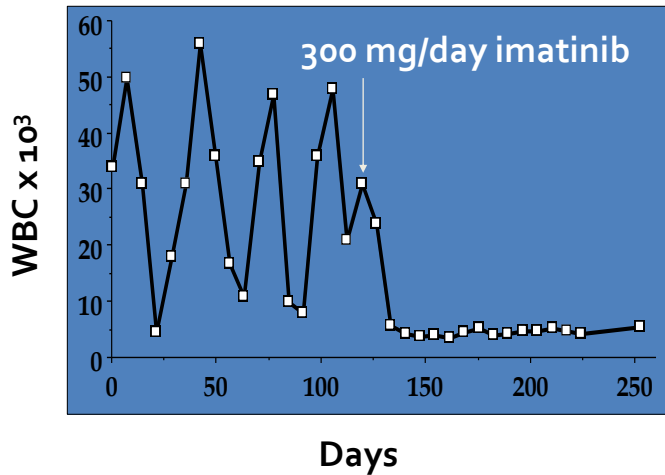


Dedicated  
to CML  
Leaders  
Lost in  
2017



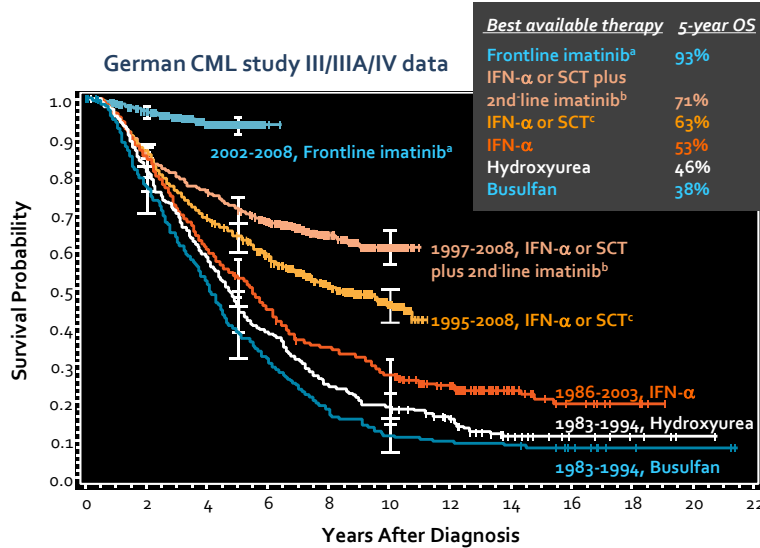
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Almost 20 y have passed:  
**ST1571 pt 0101 (first Portland patient, 1998)**  
 from chaos to rapid hematologic response



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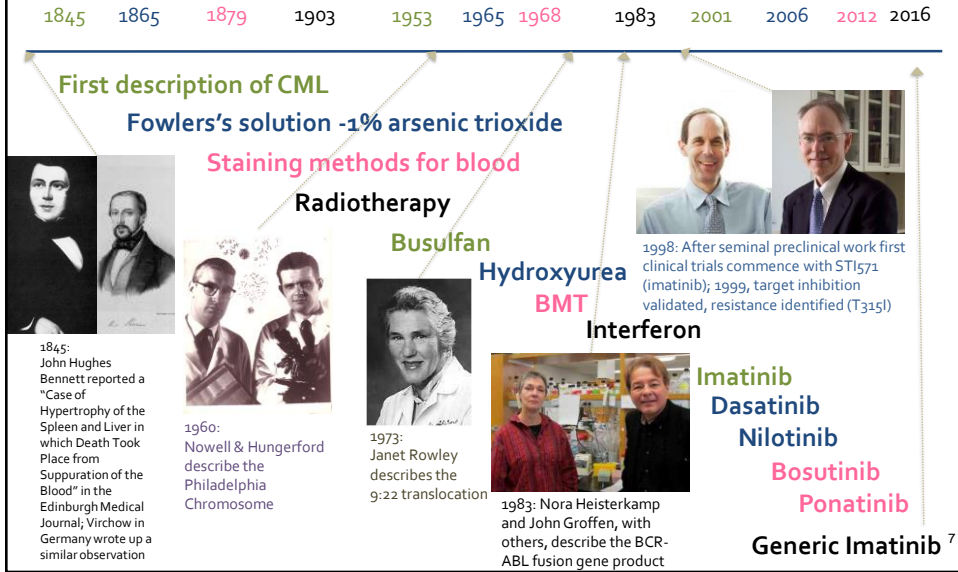
Imatinib changed the way we treated CML  
 and was the beginning of a new era



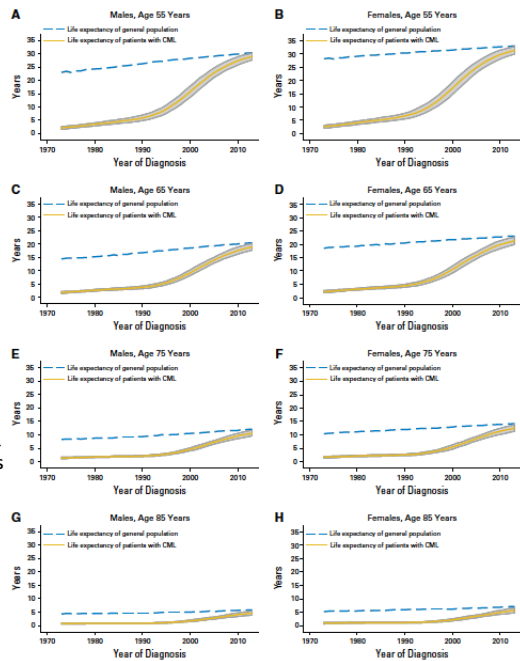
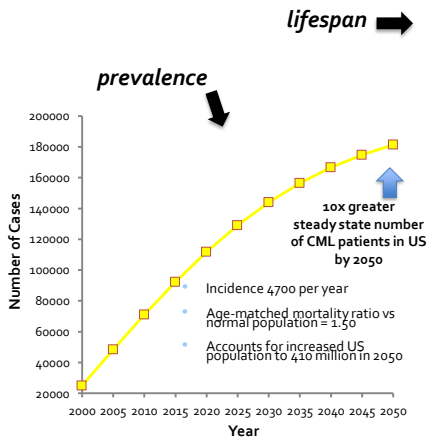
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Adapted from Hehlmann R., German CML Study Group.

# The history of CML is long, the kinase inhibitor era short

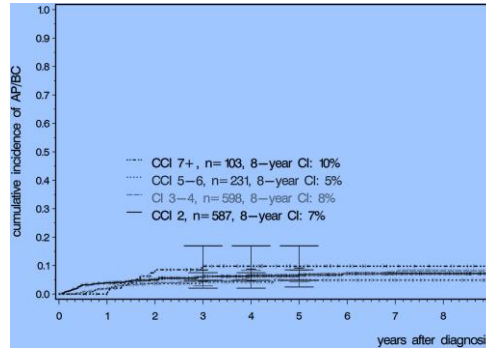
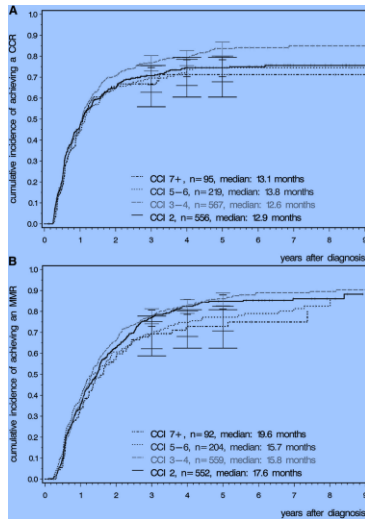


## CML is an increasingly prevalent and survivable cancer



Huang et al, *Cancer* 118:3123-3127, 2012.  
 Bower H et al, *J Clin Oncol* 34:2851-57, 2016.

## CML response not different in presence of other health problems: 'Comorbidity Index' Study

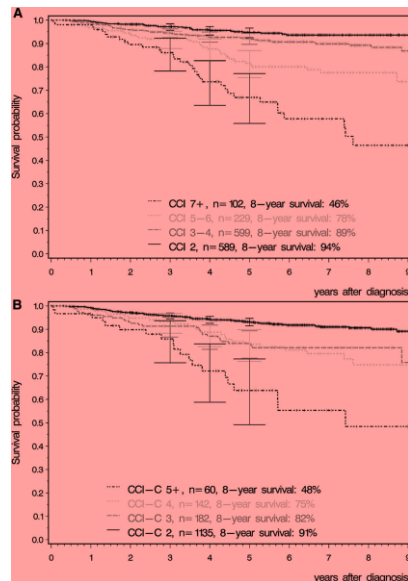


As measured by the Charlson Comorbidity Index (CCI)



Saußele S et al. Blood 2015;126:42-49

## Living with CML: Other health issues *more* important (impact longevity)



Charlson Comorbidity Index (CCI) calculated *age included*

**Internist before Hematologist: Taking care of the *whole* patient**



Charlson Comorbidity Index (CCI) calculated *age not included*



Saußele S et al. Blood 2015;126:42-49


## How common are other health problems in CML patients?

**Table 3. All countries, chronic phase, baseline characteristics, recorded before any therapy (n=2388)**

Hematologic values	Spleen		Comorbidities (n=2360)
Hb (g/dl), males, median (n=1 286)	12.5	Spleen, cm <sup>⊗</sup> , median (n=2331)	0
Hb, males, < 8.0	3.0%	Spleen, cm <sup>⊗</sup> , 0 (non palpable)	53.5%
Hb, males, 8.0-12.0	39.7%	Spleen, cm <sup>⊗</sup> , >0-4	19.6%
Hb, males, >12.0	57.3%	Spleen, cm <sup>⊗</sup> , >4 ≤ 10	11.8%
Hb (g/dl), females, median (n=1 095)	11.7	Spleen, cm <sup>⊗</sup> , ≥ 10	15.2%
Hb, females, < 8.0	5.1%	Cytogenetic data	
Hb, females, 8.0-11.0	32.9%	CCA/Ph+ (n=2018)	9.4%
Hb, females, > 11.0	62.0%	Variant translocations (n=2057)	3.7%
Platelet count, × 10 <sup>9</sup> /l, median (n=2 381)	395.0	Molecular data—type of transcript (n=1533)	
Platelet count, × 10 <sup>9</sup> /l, < 150	5.9%	b2a2	38.9%
Platelet count, × 10 <sup>9</sup> /l, 150 ≤ 450	52.0%	b3a2+b2a2/b3a2	56.6%
Platelet count, × 10 <sup>9</sup> /l, 450 ≤ 1000	34.7%	Other	4.5%
Platelet count, × 10 <sup>9</sup> /l, ≥ 1000	7.4%		
WBC count × 10 <sup>9</sup> /l, median (n=2 388)	84.6		
WBC count × 10 <sup>9</sup> /l, < 50	32.7%	Sokal score (n=2300)	
WBC count × 10 <sup>9</sup> /l, 50 ≤ 100	23.0%	Sokal low	34.5%
WBC count × 10 <sup>9</sup> /l, 100 ≤ 200	24.1%	Sokal intermediate	40.8%
WBC count × 10 <sup>9</sup> /l, ≥ 200	20.3%	Sokal high	24.7%
Blast cells, %, median (n=2356)	1.0	EURO score (n=2292)	
Basophils, %, median (n=2359)	3.0	EURO low	37.4%
Eosinophils, %, median (n=2353)	2.0	EURO intermediate	51.8%
		EURO high	10.8%
		EUTOS score (n=2307)	
		EUTOS low	88.2%
		EUTOS high	11.8%
		ECOG/WHO score (n=2280)	
		0-asymptomatic	57.1%
		1-symptomatic, compl. ambulatory	37.0%
		2-symptomatic, < 50% in bed/day	4.2%
		3-symptomatic, > 50% in bed/day	1.2%
		4-bedbound	0.5%
		56% with comorbidities	
		42% Cardiovascular	

Abbreviations: CCA, clonal chromosome abnormalities; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; EUTOS, European Treatment and Outcome Study for chronic myeloid leukemia; WBC, white blood cell; WHO, World Health Organization. ⊗ cm below costal margin.

Hoffmann VS et al, Leukemia 29 1336-43, 2015



National  
Comprehensive  
Cancer  
Network<sup>®</sup>

**NCCN Guidelines Version 1.2018**  
**Chronic Myeloid Leukemia**

**Initial Management**

CLINICAL PRESENTATION                      PRIMARY TREATMENT

Chronic phase CML →

**Treatment Considerations:**

- Patient comorbidities and drug toxicities
- Monitor response<sup>c</sup>
- Evaluate patient compliance and drug interactions
- Early toxicity monitoring

Low-risk score  
(See Risk Calculation Table CML-A)

First generation TKI (**Imatinib** or generic imatinib 400 mg QD) (category 1)  
or  
Second generation TKI (**Dasatinib** 100 mg QD [category 1] or **Nilotinib** 300 mg BID [category 1])  
or  
Clinical trial

→ See Response Milestones and Treatment Options (CML-3)<sup>c</sup>

Intermediate- or high-risk score  
(See Risk Calculation Table CML-A)

First generation TKI (**Imatinib** or generic imatinib 400 mg QD)  
or  
Second generation TKI (**Dasatinib** 100 mg QD<sup>d</sup> or **Nilotinib** 300 mg BID<sup>d</sup>)  
or  
Clinical trial

→ See Response Milestones and Treatment Options (CML-3)<sup>c</sup>

**Step 1: precise diagnosis, baseline measurements (PCR)**      ↑

**Step 2: informed and careful discussion and choice of therapy**

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**At present, five oral, small molecular kinase inhibitors approved in the US for Ph+ Leukemia: a 'spoils of riches'; more on the way?**

**1<sup>st</sup> Gen. TKI**

CN1CCN(C1)CCc2ccc(cc2)C(=O)Nc3nc4c(ncn4)C5=CC=CC=C5  
**Imatinib (STI571)**  
 2001 Novartis (1<sup>st</sup> line)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Gen. TKIs**

CN1CCN(C1)CCc2ccc(cc2)C(=O)Nc3nc4c(ncn4)C5=CC=C(C=C5)C  
**Dasatinib (BMS354825)**  
 2007/2010 BMS (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> line)

CN1CCN(C1)CCc2ccc(cc2)C(=O)Nc3nc4c(ncn4)C5=CC=C(C=C5)C  
**Nilotinib (AMN107)**  
 2007/2010 Novartis (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> line)

**South Korea only**

CN1CCN(C1)CCc2ccc(cc2)C(=O)Nc3nc4c(ncn4)C5=CC=C(C=C5)C  
**Radotinib (LY5511) HCl**  
 2012/2015 IL-YANG: (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> line)

CN1CCN(C1)CCc2ccc(cc2)C(=O)Nc3nc4c(ncn4)C5=CC=C(C=C5)C  
**Bosutinib (SKI606)**  
 2012 Pfizer (2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> line)  
 2017: 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> line?

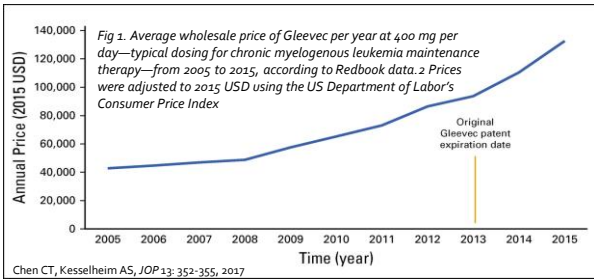
**3<sup>rd</sup> Gen. TKI**

CN1CCN(C1)CCc2ccc(cc2)C(=O)Nc3nc4c(ncn4)C5=CC=C(C=C5)C  
**Ponatinib (AP24534)**  
 2012 Ariad (2<sup>nd</sup>?/3<sup>rd</sup> line)

**4<sup>th</sup> Gen. TKI (allosteric): ABLoo1**

**Choosing your tools: comparing TKI toxicity in CML**

Issue	Imatinib	Nilotinib	Dasatinib	Bosutinib	Ponatinib
<b>Dosing</b>	QD/BID, with food	BID, without food (2h)	QD, w/ or w/o food	QD, with food	QD, w/ or w/o food
<b>Long term safety</b>	Most extensive	Extensive; Emerging toxicity	Extensive; Emerging toxicity	Extensive, No emerging toxicity	More limited but increasing; Emerging toxicity
<b>Heme toxicity</b>	intermediate	least	Most severe; ASA-like effect; lymphocytosis	~dasatinib in 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> line; ~nilotinib in 1 <sup>st</sup> line	↑thrombocytopenia ASA-like effect
<b>Non-Heme toxicity</b>	Edema, GI effects, ↓Phos	↑lipase, ↑bili, ↑chol, ↑glu Black box: QT prolongation; screening req'd	Pleural / pericardial effusions	Diarrhea; transaminitis	↑lipase, pancreatitis; rash; hypertension; Black box: vascular occlusion, heart failure, and hepatotoxicity
<b>Emerging toxicities</b>	early question re: CHF; ?late renal effects	Vascular events (ICVE, IHD, PAD)	PAH (pulmonary arterial hypertension)	? Mild renal effects	Vascular events (ICVE, IHD, PAD, VTE)



## Reality check: Cost of Therapy

The New York Times Business Day

World | U.S. | REGION | BUSINESS | TECHNOLOGY | SCIENCE | HEALTH | SPORTS | OPINION

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### Doctors Denounce Cancer Drug Prices of \$100,000 a Year



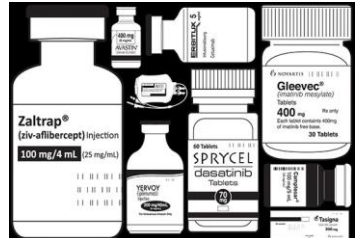
Chemotherapy drugs being prepared at a cancer treatment center at New York

Pollack A, NY Times, Published 4/25/13  
Hall S, New York Magazine, Published 10/20/13

### The price of drugs for chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) is a reflection of the unsustainable prices of cancer drugs: from the perspective of a large group of CML experts

Experts in Chronic Myeloid Leukemia Kantarjian H. Blood 121: 4439-4442, 2013

As a group of more than 100 experts in chronic myeloid leukemia (CML), we draw attention to the high prices of cancer drugs, with the particular focus on the prices of approved tyrosine kinase inhibitors for the treatment of CML. This editorial addresses the multiple factors involved in cancer drug pricing and their impact on individual patients and health care policies, and argues for the need to

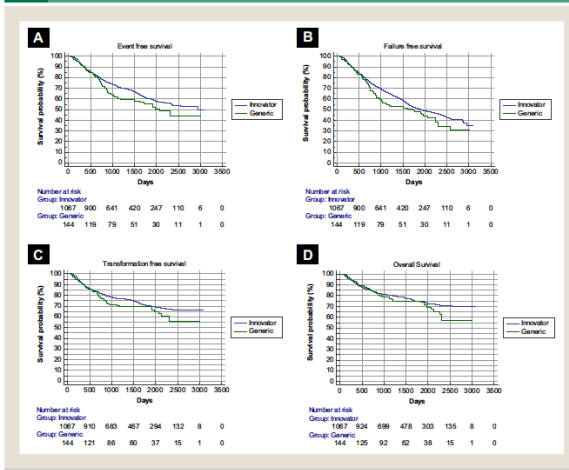


## What do we know about generic imatinib?

Table 1 Patient Demographics and Clinical Characteristics of Study Patients

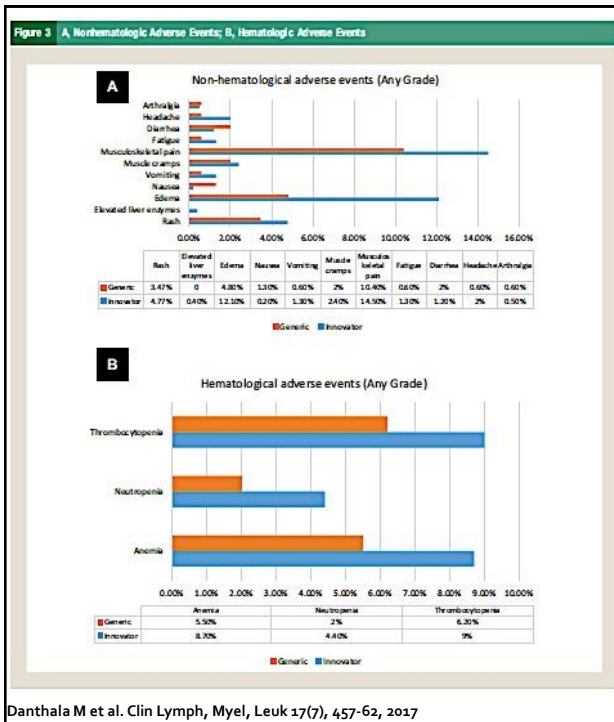
Characteristic	Innovator Imatinib (n = 1067)	Generic Imatinib (n = 144)
Age, y		
Median	40	36
Range	10-68	2-75
Gender, n (%)		
Male	620 (58)	87 (60)
White cell count, /mm <sup>3</sup>		
Median	169,600	142,670
Range	2800-828,000	4500-619,000
Platelet count, /mm <sup>3</sup>		
Median	360,000	341,000
Range	20,000-2,130,000	70,000-1,370,000
Hemoglobin, g/dL		
Median	9.9	10.2
Range	3.1-18.6	5.2-18.3
Peripheral blood blasts, %		
Median	2	2
Range	0-31	0-12
Peripheral blood basophils, %		
Median	3	2
Range	0-41	0-15
Splenomegaly, n (%)	663 (62)	74 (51)

Figure 2 A, Kaplan-Meier Curves of Event-free Survival in Those Receiving Frontline Innovator/Generic Imatinib; B, Kaplan-Meier Curves of Failure-free Survival in Those Receiving Frontline Innovator/Generic Imatinib; C, Kaplan-Meier Curves of Transformation-free Survival in Those Receiving Frontline Innovator/Generic Imatinib; D, Kaplan-Meier Curves of Overall Survival in Those Receiving Frontline Innovator/Generic Imatinib



Danthala M et al. Clin Lymph, Myel, Leuk 17(7), 457-62, 2017



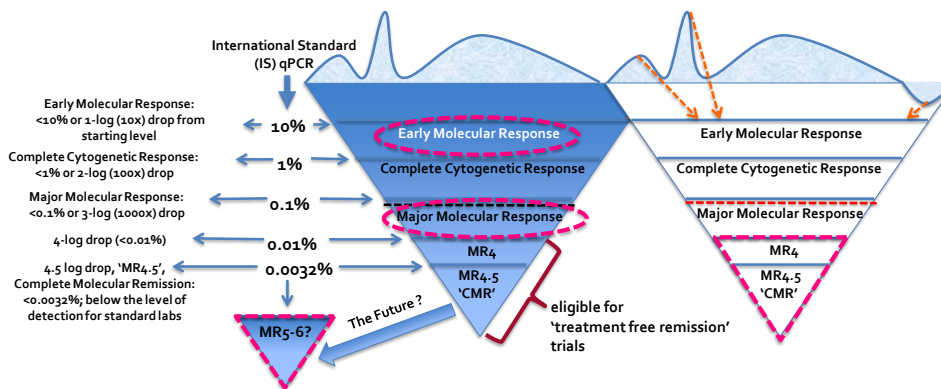


## Branded vs. generic imatinib: toxicity

- Remember generic substitutions can rotate (different manufacturer with each Rx)
- Closer side effect monitoring prudent
- Shorter term PCR monitoring after switch may be advisable also

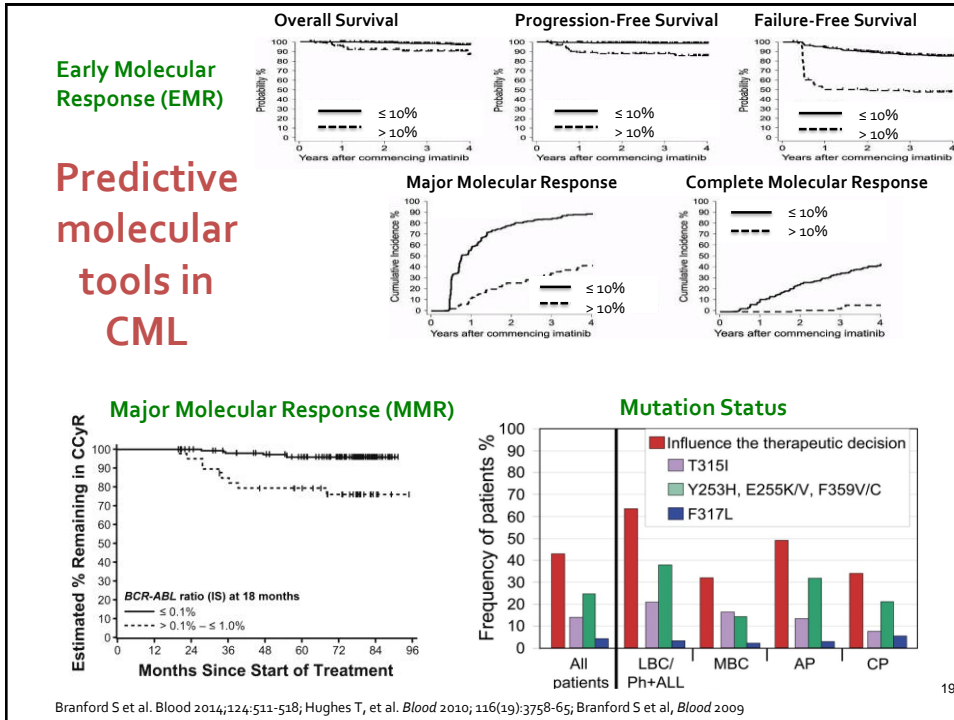
Danthal M et al. Clin Lymph, Myel, Leuk 17(7), 457-62, 2017

## 'Shrinking the iceberg': response expectations



Plainly stated:

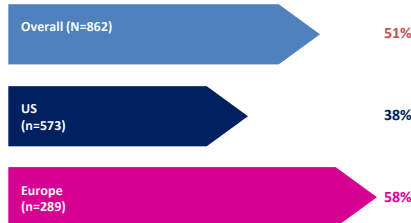
1. PCR at diagnosis = very important, like a timing chip when you run a race (where did you start?)
2. Early response at 3mo should be 'on track', 10x lower than start, ~10% (if you start ~100%)
3. Complete cytogenetic response (~1% on the PCR scale; 100x lower) is very important and protective
4. Major molecular response (MMR, ~0.1% on the PCR scale; 1000x lower) adds further protection
5. Deep Molecular remission: aiming for 0.01% or lower (10,000x lower than start) and staying that way



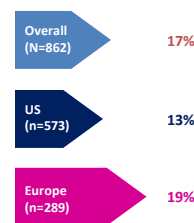
## Monitoring for CML response needs improvement

About 1 in every 5 patients are not tested for MR at 12 months and almost half are not tested for CyR

### Patients not tested for CyR at 12 months<sup>1</sup>



### Patients not tested for MR by 12 months<sup>1</sup>



Age <65 years at initiation of first-line TKI, patients who had switched from first-line TKI and those seen in academic centres were more likely to be monitored by 12 months (p<0.05)<sup>2</sup>

- Goldberg SL, Cortes J, Gambacorti-Passerini C, et al. Cytogenetic and molecular testing in patients with chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in a prospective observational study (SIMPLICITY). *J Clin Oncol.* 2014;32:5s (suppl; abstr 7050).
- Goldberg SL, Cortes J, Gambacorti-Passerini C, et al. Predictors of performing response monitoring in patients with chronic-phase chronic myeloid leukemia (CP-CML) in a prospective observational study (SIMPLICITY). *J Clin Oncol.* 2014;32:(suppl 30; abstr 116).

## The most significant 'late effects': CML TKI Associated Cardiovascular Adverse Effects

**Cardiomyopathy  
Congestive Heart Failure**  
*Cardiomyocyte Injury?*

**Coronary Heart Disease  
Myocardial Infarction**  
*Endothelial Dysfunction?  
Atherosclerosis?*

**Peripheral Arterial Disease**  
*Endothelial Dysfunction?  
Atherosclerosis?*

**Cerebrovascular Disease**  
*Endothelial Dysfunction?  
Atherosclerosis?*

**Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension**  
*Endothelial Dysfunction?*

**Venous Thrombosis**  
*Platelet dysfunction?  
Prothrombotic state?*

**Other:**

- Fatigue
- Musculoskeletal Sx / Cramping
- Exercise-Induced Symptoms

➔ Morbidity and mortality; ? Effect on survival observations in front-line studies?  
➔ ? Delay/deferral of advantageous therapy both in front-line and salvage

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International **CardiOncology** Society

MI  
CVA  
PAD  
Dyslipidemia  
DM/Glu Intol

'Complete Molecular Remission'

'Treatment Free Remission'

## Guidelines in active development for CML patients and CV risk

**'ABCDE' Step Approach to CV Intervention**

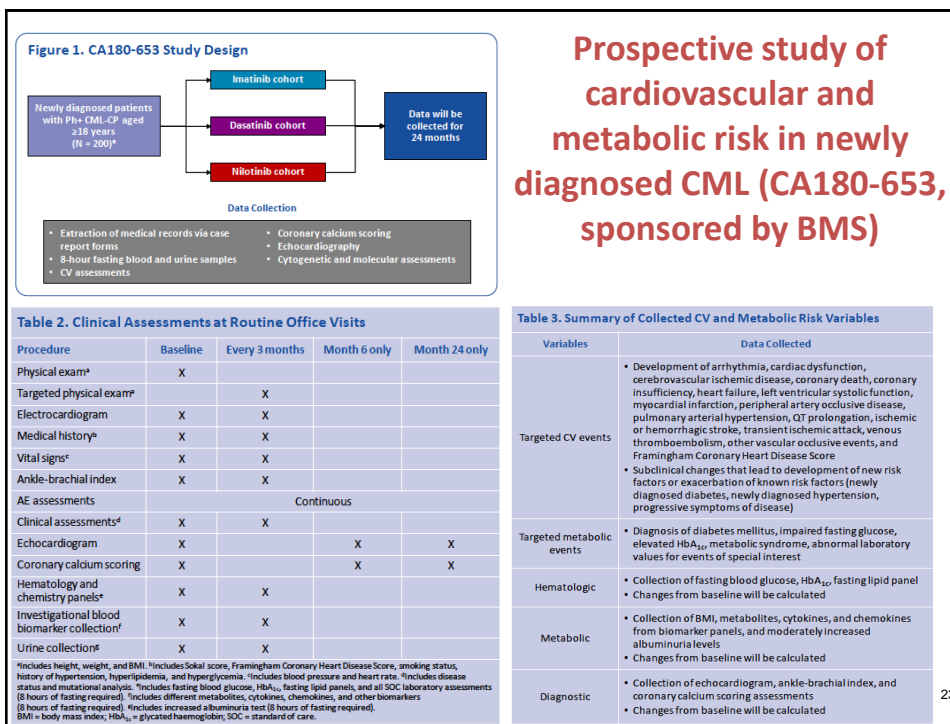
	Imatinib	Bosutinib	Dasatinib	Nilotinib	Ponatinib
<b>Baseline Assessment</b>					
Cardiovascular assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Blood pressure check	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fasting glucose	+	+	+	✓	✓
Fasting lipid panel	+	+	+	✓	✓
Echocardiogram	+	+	+	+	+
Electrocardiogram	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ankle-brachial index	+	+	+	✓	✓
<b>1-month follow up</b>					
Cardiovascular assessment	+	+	✓	✓	✓
Blood pressure check	+	+	+	+	✓
<b>3- to 6-month follow-up</b>					
Cardiovascular assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Blood pressure check	+	+	+	✓	✓
Fasting glucose	+	+	+	✓	+
Fasting lipid panel	+	+	+	✓	✓
Echocardiogram	+	+	+	+	+
Electrocardiogram	+	+	+	✓	✓
Ankle-brachial index	+	+	+	✓	✓

Legend: ✓ = Recommended, + = As clinically indicated

\*Patients treated with dasatinib should be considered for echocardiogram if cardiopulmonary symptoms are present.

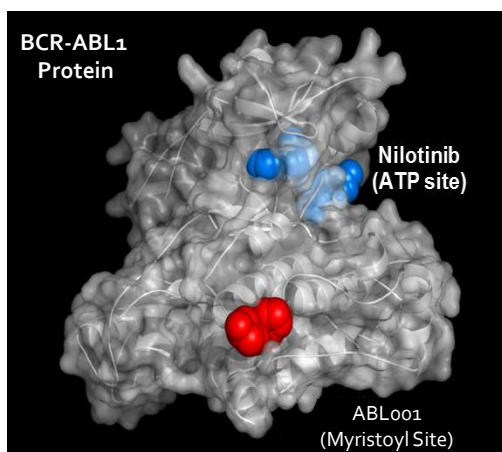
Barber M, Mauro M and Moslehi J, *in press*

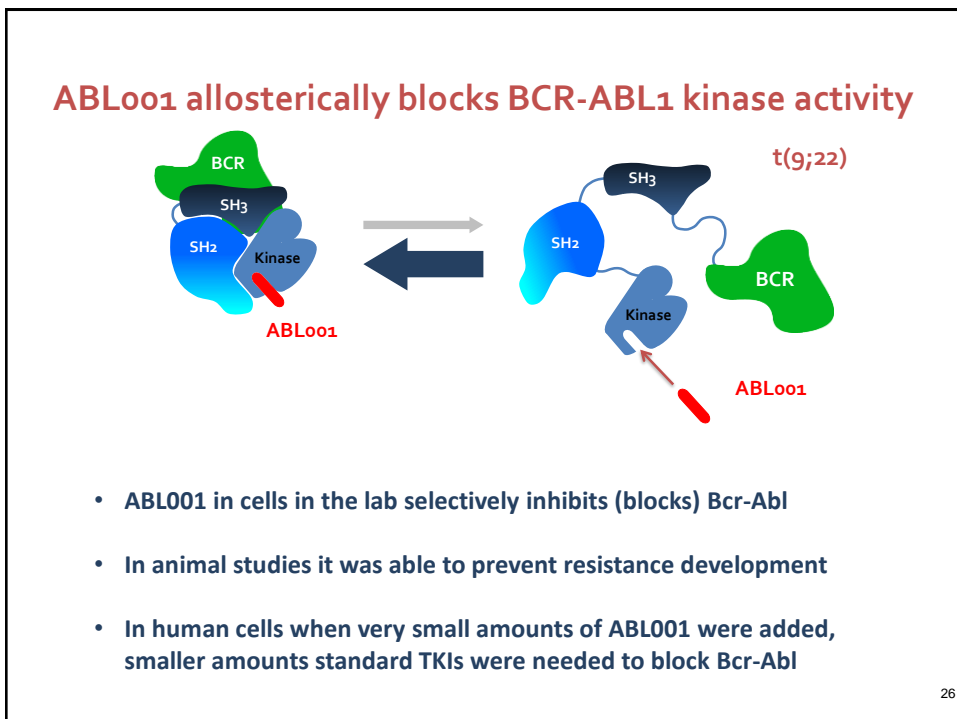
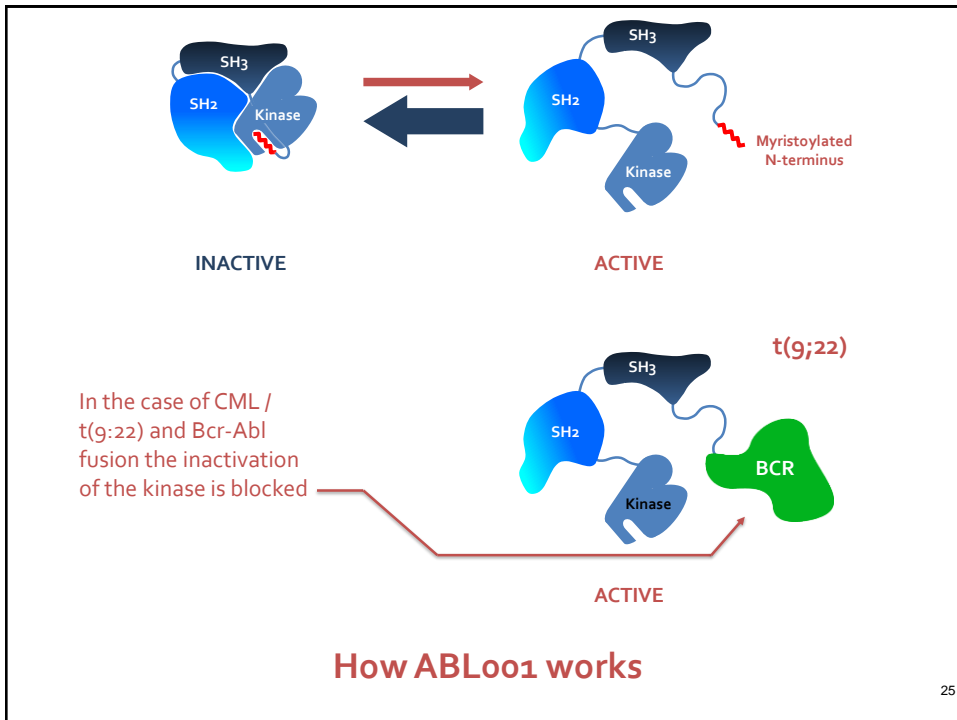
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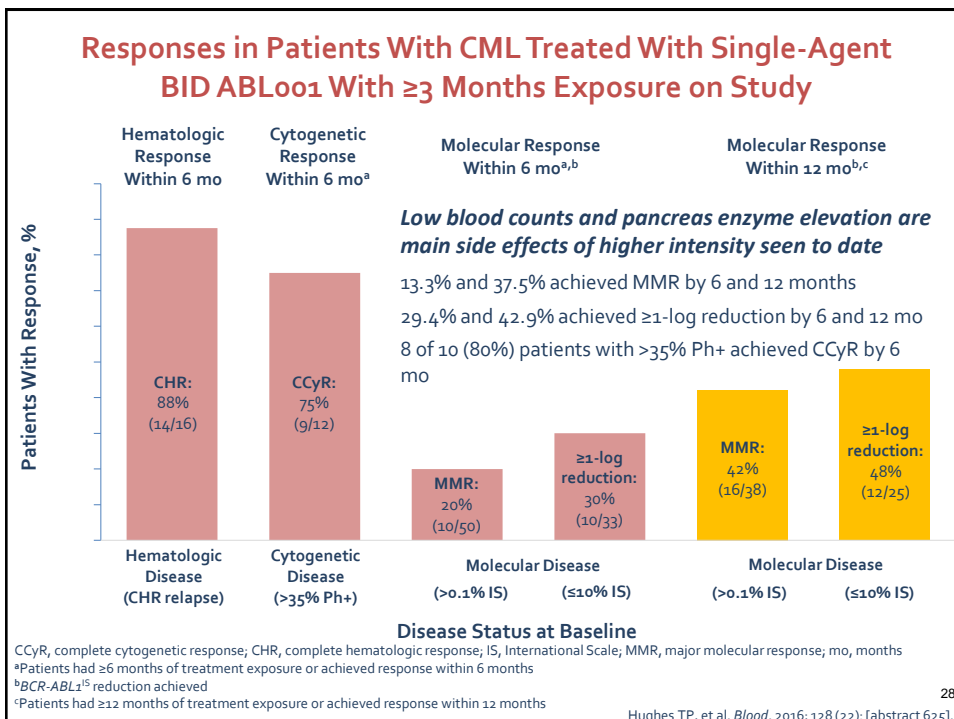
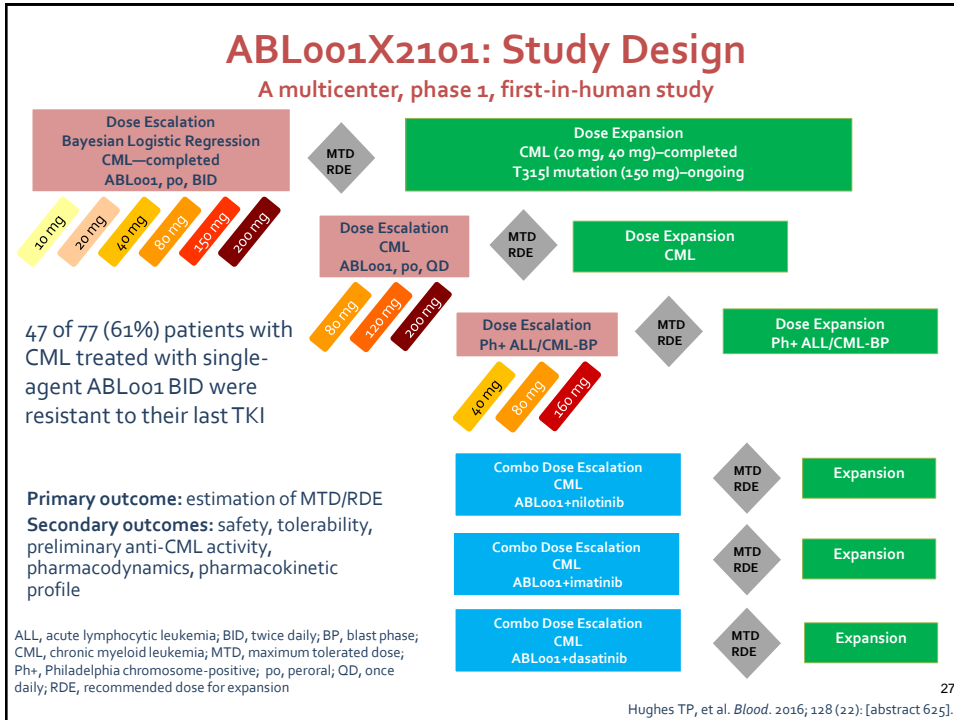


## ABL001: Novel 3<sup>rd</sup> generation ABL kinase inhibitor

- ABL001 is a new potent, specific inhibitor for CML with a distinct 'allosteric' mechanism of action
- Binds a *different and separate* region of the kinase domain: the myristate-binding pocket, holding Bcr-Abl in the inactive conformation
- Has potential to be combined with the currently available TKIs – the first instance where there is rationale for combinations...

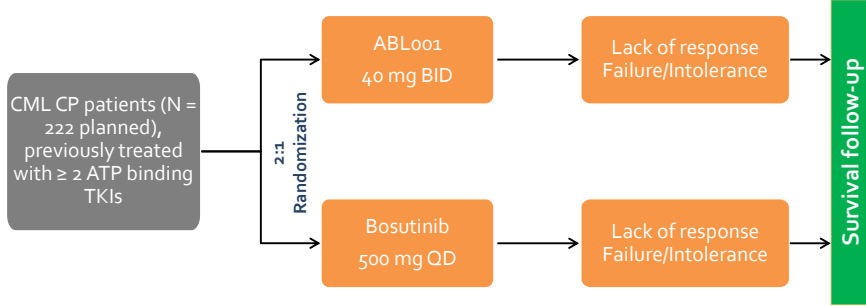






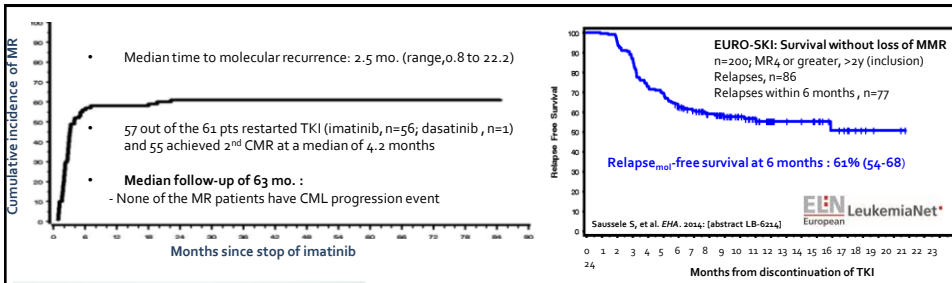
## CABL001A2301 (Planned): Study Design

### A phase 3, Multicenter, Open-label, Randomized Study of ABL001 Versus Bosutinib



- **Primary endpoints:** Major Molecular Response (MMR) rate at 24 weeks
- **Key secondary endpoint:** MMR rate at 96 weeks

BID, twice daily; CML, chronic myeloid leukemia; CP, chronic phase; QD, once daily; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor





### A Cancer Drug Gave Me This Life. Can I Survive Without It?

Since she was 23, Erin Zarnemann Ruddy has swallowed a daily pill to keep her leukemia at bay. Here she has a choice: stay the course or ditch the drug. Find out what she'll do next.

It's been 10 years since I got the news that I had leukemia. I can still feel the fear that washed through my stomach. The way my stomach kept cramping in the weeks and months after I was diagnosed. The way my stomach felt like it was being crushed. The way my stomach felt like it was being crushed. The way my stomach felt like it was being crushed.

**fantastic therapy + careful selection + good monitoring = fantastic outcomes...**

**'treatment free remission'**

## Criteria for consideration of treatment free remission (TKI cessation): *the rules as noted by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN)*

Age  $\geq 18$  years.

Chronic phase CML. No prior history of accelerated or blast phase CML.

On approved TKI therapy (imatinib, dasatinib, nilotinib, bosutinib, or ponatinib) for at least three years.

Prior evidence of quantifiable BCR-ABL1 transcript.

Stable molecular response (MR<sub>4</sub>;  $\leq 0.01\%$  IS) for  $\geq 2$  years, as documented on at least four tests, performed at least three months apart.

No history of resistance to any TKI.

Access to a reliable QPCR test with a sensitivity of detection of  $\geq 4.5$  logs that reports results on the IS and provides results within 2 weeks.

Monthly molecular monitoring for the first six months following discontinuation, bimonthly during months 7–24, and quarterly thereafter (indefinitely) for patients who remain in MMR (MR<sub>3</sub>;  $\leq 0.1\%$  IS).

Consultation with a CML Specialty Center to review the appropriateness for TKI discontinuation and potential risks and benefits of treatment discontinuation, including TKI withdrawal syndrome.

Prompt resumption of TKI, with a monthly molecular monitoring for the first six months following resumption of TKI and every 3 months thereafter is recommended indefinitely for patients with a loss of MMR. For those who fail to achieve MMR after six months of TKI resumption, BCR-ABL1 kinase domain mutation testing should be performed, and monthly molecular monitoring should be continued for another six months.

Reporting of the following to a member of the NCCN CML panel is strongly encouraged:

- Any significant adverse event believed to be related to treatment discontinuation.
- Progression to accelerated or blast phase CML at any time.

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## Criteria for consideration of treatment free remission (TKI cessation): *patient specifics*

Age  $\geq 18$  years.

Chronic phase CML. No prior history of accelerated or blast phase CML.

On approved TKI therapy (imatinib, dasatinib, nilotinib, bosutinib, or ponatinib) for at least three years.

Prior evidence of quantifiable BCR-ABL1 transcript.

Stable molecular response (MR<sub>4</sub>;  $\leq 0.01\%$  IS) for  $\geq 2$  years, as documented on at least four tests, performed at least three months apart.

No history of resistance to any TKI.

Access to a reliable QPCR test with a sensitivity of detection of  $\geq 4.5$  logs that reports results on the IS and provides results within 2 weeks.

Monthly molecular monitoring for the first six months following discontinuation, bimonthly during months 7–24, and quarterly thereafter (indefinitely) for patients who remain in MMR (MR<sub>3</sub>;  $\leq 0.1\%$  IS).

Consultation with a CML Specialty Center to review the appropriateness for TKI discontinuation and potential risks and benefits of treatment discontinuation, including TKI withdrawal syndrome.

Prompt resumption of TKI, with a monthly molecular monitoring for the first six months following resumption of TKI and every 3 months thereafter is recommended indefinitely for patients with a loss of MMR. For those who fail to achieve MMR after six months of TKI resumption, BCR-ABL1 kinase domain mutation testing should be performed, and monthly molecular monitoring should be continued for another six months.

Reporting of the following to a member of the NCCN CML panel is strongly encouraged:

- Any significant adverse event believed to be related to treatment discontinuation.
- Progression to accelerated or blast phase CML at any time.

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## Criteria for consideration of treatment free remission (TKI cessation): *PCR criteria and assay*

Age  $\geq 18$  years.

Chronic phase CML. No prior history of accelerated or blast phase CML.

On approved TKI therapy (imatinib, dasatinib, nilotinib, bosutinib, or ponatinib) **for at least three years.**

Prior evidence of quantifiable BCR-ABL<sub>1</sub> transcript.

**Stable molecular response (MR<sub>4</sub>;  $\leq 0.01\%$  IS) for  $\geq 2$  years, as documented on at least four tests, performed at least three months apart.**

No history of resistance to any TKI.

**Access to a reliable QPCR test with a sensitivity of detection of  $\geq 4.5$  logs that reports results on the IS and provides results within 2 weeks.**

**Monthly molecular monitoring for the first six months following discontinuation, bimonthly during months 7–24, and quarterly thereafter (indefinitely) for patients who remain in MMR (MR<sub>3</sub>;  $\leq 0.1\%$  IS).**

**Consultation with a CML Specialty Center to review the appropriateness for TKI discontinuation and potential risks and benefits of treatment discontinuation, including TKI withdrawal syndrome.**

**Prompt resumption of TKI, with a monthly molecular monitoring for the first six months following resumption of TKI and every 3 months thereafter is recommended indefinitely for patients with a loss of MMR. For those who fail to achieve MMR after six months of TKI resumption, BCR-ABL<sub>1</sub> kinase domain mutation testing should be performed, and monthly molecular monitoring should be continued for another six months.**

Reporting of the following to a member of the NCCN CML panel is strongly encouraged:

- Any significant adverse event believed to be related to treatment discontinuation.
- Progression to accelerated or blast phase CML at any time.

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## Criteria for consideration of treatment free remission (TKI cessation): *monitoring rules*

Age  $\geq 18$  years.

Chronic phase CML. No prior history of accelerated or blast phase CML.

On approved TKI therapy (imatinib, dasatinib, nilotinib, bosutinib, or ponatinib) for at least three years.

Prior evidence of quantifiable BCR-ABL<sub>1</sub> transcript.

**Stable molecular response (MR<sub>4</sub>;  $\leq 0.01\%$  IS) for  $\geq 2$  years, as documented on at least four tests, performed at least three months apart.**

No history of resistance to any TKI.

**Access to a reliable QPCR test with a sensitivity of detection of  $\geq 4.5$  logs that reports results on the IS and provides results within 2 weeks.**

**Monthly molecular monitoring for the first six months following discontinuation, bimonthly during months 7–24, and quarterly thereafter (indefinitely) for patients who remain in MMR (MR<sub>3</sub>;  $\leq 0.1\%$  IS).**

**Consultation with a CML Specialty Center to review the appropriateness for TKI discontinuation and potential risks and benefits of treatment discontinuation, including TKI withdrawal syndrome.**

**Prompt resumption of TKI, with a monthly molecular monitoring for the first six months following resumption of TKI and every 3 months thereafter is recommended indefinitely for patients with a loss of MMR. For those who fail to achieve MMR after six months of TKI resumption, BCR-ABL<sub>1</sub> kinase domain mutation testing should be performed, and monthly molecular monitoring should be continued for another six months.**

Reporting of the following to a member of the NCCN CML panel is strongly encouraged:

- Any significant adverse event believed to be related to treatment discontinuation.
- Progression to accelerated or blast phase CML at any time.

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## Criteria for consideration of treatment free remission (TKI cessation): *CML specialty center / NCCN feedback*

Age  $\geq 18$  years.

Chronic phase CML. No prior history of accelerated or blast phase CML.

On approved TKI therapy (imatinib, dasatinib, nilotinib, bosutinib, or ponatinib) for at least three years.

Prior evidence of quantifiable BCR-ABL1 transcript.

Stable molecular response (MR4;  $\leq 0.01\%$  IS) for  $\geq 2$  years, as documented on at least four tests, performed at least three months apart.

No history of resistance to any TKI.

Access to a reliable QPCR test with a sensitivity of detection of  $\geq 4.5$  logs that reports results on the IS and provides results within 2 weeks.

Monthly molecular monitoring for the first six months following discontinuation, bimonthly during months 7–24, and quarterly thereafter (indefinitely) for patients who remain in MMR (MR3;  $\leq 0.1\%$  IS).

**Consultation with a CML Specialty Center to review the appropriateness for TKI discontinuation and potential risks and benefits of treatment discontinuation, including TKI withdrawal syndrome.**

Prompt resumption of TKI, with a monthly molecular monitoring for the first six months following resumption of TKI and every 3 months thereafter is recommended indefinitely for patients with a loss of MMR. For those who fail to achieve MMR after six months of TKI resumption, BCR-ABL1 kinase domain mutation testing should be performed, and monthly molecular monitoring should be continued for another six months.

Reporting of the following to a member of the NCCN CML panel is strongly encouraged:

- Any significant adverse event believed to be related to treatment discontinuation.
- Progression to accelerated or blast phase CML at any time.

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## Do Adverse Events Occur With TKI Withdrawal?

N=200; 222 AEs in 98 patients were reported

57 AEs in 31 patients were related to treatment stop, no grade 4

	Patients All Grade (n)	Patients Grade 3 (n)	AEs All Grade (n)	AEs Grade 3 (n)
Musculoskeletal pain, joint pain, arthralgia	23	3	39	6
Other (sweating, skin disorders, folliculitis, depressive episodes, fatigue, urticaria, weight loss)	8	0	18	3

Musculoskeletal pain in CML patients after discontinuation of imatinib: a tyrosine kinase inhibitor withdrawal syndrome?  
J. Richter et al. J Clin Oncol. 2014 Sep 1;32(25):2821-3.

Tyrosine kinase inhibitor withdrawal syndrome: a matter of c-kit?  
Response to Richter et al.  
Ph. Rousselot et al.

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Mahon FX et al, Blood 2014, 124:151

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

**Productive Replication of Ebola Virus Is Regulated by the c-Abl1 Tyrosine Kinase**

Mayra Garcia,<sup>1</sup> Arik Cooper,<sup>1</sup> Wei Shi,<sup>1</sup> William Bornmann,<sup>2</sup> Ricardo Carrion,<sup>3</sup> Daniel Kalman,<sup>1</sup> Gary J. Nabel<sup>1\*</sup>

Ebola virus causes a fulminant infection in humans resulting in diffuse bleeding, vascular instability, hypotensive shock, and often death. Because of its high mortality and ease of transmission from human to human, Ebola virus remains a biological threat for which effective preventive and therapeutic interventions are needed. An understanding of the mechanisms of Ebola virus pathogenesis is critical for developing antiviral therapeutics. Here, we report that productive replication of Ebola virus is modulated by the c-Abl1 tyrosine kinase. Release of Ebola virus-like particles (VLPs) in a cell culture cotransfection system was inhibited by c-Abl1-specific small interfering RNA (siRNA) or by Abl-specific kinase inhibitors and required tyrosine phosphorylation of the Ebola matrix protein VP40. Expression of c-Abl1 stimulated an increase in phosphorylation of tyrosine 13 (Y13) of VP40, and mutation of Y13 to alanine decreased the release of Ebola VLPs. Productive replication of the highly pathogenic Ebola virus Zaire strain was inhibited by c-Abl1-specific siRNAs or by the Abl-family inhibitor nilotinib by up to four orders of magnitude. These data indicate that c-Abl1 regulates budding or release of filoviruses through a mechanism involving phosphorylation of VP40. This step of the virus life cycle therefore may represent a target for antiviral therapy.



**Abelson Kinase Inhibitors Are Potent Inhibitors of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus Fusion**

Christopher M. Coleman,<sup>1</sup> Jeanne M. Sisk,<sup>1</sup> Rebecca M. Mingo,<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth A. Nelson,<sup>3</sup> Judith M. White,<sup>4</sup> Matthew B. Frieman<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland, USA; <sup>2</sup>Department of Cell Biology, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA

ABSTRACT

The highly pathogenic severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV) and Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) cause significant morbidity and mortality. There is currently no approved therapeutic for highly pathogenic coronaviruses, even as MERS-CoV is spreading throughout the Middle East. We previously screened a library of FDA-approved drugs for inhibitors of coronavirus replication in which we identified Abelson (Abl) kinase inhibitors, including the anticancer drug imatinib, as inhibitors of both SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV in vitro. Here we show that the anti-CoV activity of imatinib occurs at the early stages of infection, after internalization and endosomal trafficking, by inhibiting fusion of the virions at the endosomal membrane. We specifically identified the imatinib target, Abelson tyrosine-protein kinase 2 (Abl2), as required for efficient SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV replication in vitro. These data demonstrate that specific approved drugs can be characterized in vitro for their anticoronavirus activity and used to identify host proteins required for coronavirus replication. This type of study is an important step in the repurposing of approved drugs for treatment of emerging coronaviruses.

**Repurposing imatinib: other Abl targets**

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online



**Imatinib Ameliorates Neuroinflammation in a Rat Model of Multiple Sclerosis by Enhancing Blood-Brain Barrier Integrity and by Modulating the Peripheral Immune Response**

Milena Z. Adzemovic<sup>1\*</sup>, Manuel Zetterhoger<sup>1\*</sup>, Ulf Eriksson<sup>2</sup>, Tomas Olsson<sup>1,3</sup>, Ingrid Nilsson<sup>4,5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Neuroimmunology Unit, Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Center for Molecular Medicine, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden, <sup>2</sup>Division of Vascular Biology, Department of Medical Biotechnology and Biophysics, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden

Abstract

Central nervous system (CNS) disorders such as ischemic stroke, multiple sclerosis (MS) or Alzheimer's disease are characterized by the loss of blood-brain barrier (BBB) integrity. Here we demonstrate that the small tyrosine kinase inhibitor imatinib enhances BBB integrity in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis, an animal model of multiple sclerosis (MS). Treatment was accompanied by decreased CNS inflammation and demyelination and especially reduced T cell recruitment. This was supported by downregulation of the chemokine receptor (CCR) 2 in CNS and lymph nodes, and by modulation of the peripheral immune response towards an anti-inflammatory phenotype. Interestingly, imatinib ameliorated neuroinflammation, even when the treatment was initiated after the clinical manifestation of the disease. We have previously shown that imatinib reduces BBB disruption and stroke volume after experimentally induced ischemic stroke by targeting platelet-derived growth factor receptor  $\alpha$  (PDGFR- $\alpha$ ) signaling. Here we demonstrate that PDGFR $\alpha$  signaling is a central regulator of BBB integrity during neuroinflammation and therefore imatinib should be considered a potentially effective treatment for MS.



The c-Abl inhibitor, Nilotinib, protects dopaminergic neurons in a preclinical animal model of Parkinson's disease

Senthil Kumar S. Karuppagounder<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Saurav Brahmachari<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Yunjing Lee<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>, Valina L. Dawson<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>, Ted M. Dawson<sup>1,2,4,5,6\*</sup> & Han Seok Ko<sup>1,2,7\*</sup>

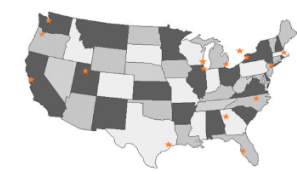
<sup>1</sup>Neuroregeneration and Stem Cell Programs, Institute for Cell Engineering, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD 21205, USA, <sup>2</sup>Department of Neurology, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD 21205, USA, <sup>3</sup>Department of Physiology, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD 21205, USA, <sup>4</sup>Department of Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD 21205, USA, <sup>5</sup>Solomon H. Snyder Department of Neuroscience, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD 21205, USA, <sup>6</sup>Adrienne Helis Molvin Medical Research Foundation, New Orleans, LA 70130-2685, USA, <sup>7</sup>Dionio Helis Henry Medical Research Foundation, New Orleans, LA 70130-2685, USA.

c-Abl is activated in the brain of Parkinson's disease (PD) patients and in 1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine (MPTP)-intoxicated mice where it inhibits parkin through tyrosine phosphorylation leading to the accumulation of parkin substrates, and neuronal cell death. In the present study, we evaluated the in vivo efficacy of nilotinib, a brain penetrant c-Abl inhibitor, in the acute MPTP-induced model of PD. Our results show that administration of nilotinib reduces c-Abl activation and the levels of the parkin substrate, PARK2, resulting in prevention of dopamine (DA) neuron loss and behavioral deficits following MPTP intoxication. On the other hand, we observe no reduction in the tyrosine phosphorylation of parkin and the parkin substrate, AIMP2 suggesting that the protective effect of nilotinib may, in part, be parkin-independent or to the pharmacodynamic properties of nilotinib. This study provides a strong rationale for testing other brain permeable c-Abl inhibitors as potential therapeutic agents for the treatment of PD.

**H. JEAN KHOURY CURE CML CONSORTIUM**

We are a group of researchers from 17 world-class academic medical centers throughout North America committed to curing CML through innovative research. With feedback from advocates and patients, we strive to meet the needs of the CML community.

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- Huntsman Cancer Institute
- H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute
- Medical College of Wisconsin
- MD Anderson Cancer Center
- Oregon Health & Science University
- John Theurer Cancer Center at Hackensack University
- Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University



[www.curecml.org](http://www.curecml.org)




'Galvanized by the spectacular collaboration created by the LAST study, the creation of a CML consortium was simply the next logical thing to do' -H. Jean Khoury

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- Duke Cancer Institute
- Weill Medical College of Cornell University
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- UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Roswell Park Cancer Institute
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**We need your help  
to better our  
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and click on  
'survey'**




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We want to know what you think  
the research priorities should be.


The 5-10 minute survey is voluntary and anonymous.

SURVEY LINK  
[mcw.edu/CMLsurvey](http://mcw.edu/CMLsurvey)



QUESTIONS?  
cureCML@mcw.edu  
414.805.8745

Scan QR code

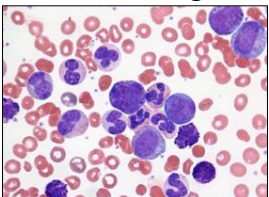




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## CML in 2017 and beyond...

- CML is highly treatable; 'functional cure' appears feasible
- Generic imatinib is here; let science overcome fears
- TKIs should be carefully chosen (risk/benefit)
- Monitoring needs to happen, mutations *can* drive treatment choice and resistance is treatable
- Even more new agents on the horizon (ABL001)
- SCT still needed as an option; don't under-utilize
- The past and the future have been VERY bright.....


➔

➔



Many TKIs  
Response  
Remission  
Cure?

= Long,  
Happy,  
Healthy  
Life!

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*Thank you for your attention!*

*Questions?*

**212-639-3107**



**What's on the Horizon for Chronic Myeloid Leukemia?**



fighting blood cancers

## Q&A Session

Ask a question by phone:

- Press star (\*) then the number 1 on your keypad.

Ask a question by web:

- Click "Ask a question"
- Type your question
- Click "Submit"

Due to time constraints, we can only take one question per person. Once you've asked your question, the operator will transfer you back into the audience line.

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## What's on the Horizon for Chronic Myeloid Leukemia?



### SUPPORT RESOURCES

- **LLS Community:** Online community of people living with or supporting someone with blood cancer: [www.LLS.org/community](http://www.LLS.org/community)
- **What to ask:** Questions to ask your treatment team: [www.LLS.org/whattoask](http://www.LLS.org/whattoask)
- **Free education materials:** [www.LLS.org/booklets](http://www.LLS.org/booklets)
- **Past CML education programs:** [www.LLS.org/programs](http://www.LLS.org/programs)
- **Online CML Chat:** [www.LLS.org/chat](http://www.LLS.org/chat)
- **Information Resource Center:** Speak one-on-one with an Information Specialist who can assist you through cancer treatment, financial, and social challenges.
  - **EMAIL:** [infocenter@LLS.org](mailto:infocenter@LLS.org)
  - **TOLL-FREE PHONE:** (800) 955- 4572

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