Introduction

Results from clinical trials using chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy for the treatment of B-cell malignancies have generated intense interest from patients, families and healthcare providers. Clinical trials are underway for multiple B-cell malignancies, including B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (B-ALL), Hodgkin and non-Hodgkin lymphomas (HL, NHL), chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and multiple myeloma (MM).

While still in the clinical trial stage and not yet FDA-approved, the anticipated movement of CAR T-cell therapy into the clinic will require sufficient understanding by all parties of the technology and medical management surrounding the use of these personalized, “living” biologics in patients with cancer. This publication will explain the rationale behind CAR T-cell therapy, summarize clinical trial results to date, detail significant risks that have emerged, provide practical medical management information, and highlight some unique challenges involved in the anticipated integration of this therapy into clinical practice.

Highlights

- CAR T-cell therapy equips a patient’s T cells with the ability to detect and destroy malignant cells by combining the specificity of a monoclonal antibody with the cytotoxic and memory capabilities of endogenous T cells.
- CAR T-cell therapy involves isolating a patient’s T cells and then transfecting them with the CAR gene, expanding the cells, and re-infusing them into the patient.
- CAR T-cell therapies are investigational and are not FDA-approved.
- CARs used in the most advanced clinical trials are directed against CD19, which is expressed on the surface of the vast majority of B cells, including B-cell malignancies.
- The time from T-cell harvest to infusion of CAR T cells varies from a few days to weeks, depending on the clinical trial.
- Prior to CAR T-cell infusion, the patient typically undergoes “preconditioning” chemotherapy to deplete endogenous lymphocytes.

- CAR T cells generally reach peak levels in the patient between 1 and 2 weeks after infusion.
- The degree of expansion and persistence of CAR T cells is one indicator of efficacy.
- Clinical trial data have demonstrated high efficacy for relapsed and refractory B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia, and lasting remissions have been reported.
- Clinical trial data have demonstrated encouraging results for relapsed and refractory chronic lymphocytic leukemia and non-Hodgkin lymphoma, with durable remissions reported.
- CAR T-cell therapy is associated with serious side effects, including cytokine release syndrome, neurotoxicity, macrophage activating syndrome and B-cell aplasia. Patient deaths have been reported.
- Additional CAR targets are under investigation for the treatment of other hematologic malignancies, as well as solid tumors.
- Studies are underway to evaluate the safety and efficacy of CAR T cells, and to streamline the manufacturing process.
What is a chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)?

**Manufacturing a targeted T cell**

CAR T-cell therapy essentially leverages the natural ability of the human immune system to detect and destroy cancer cells. In order to effectively eliminate cancer cells, cytotoxic T cells must first recognize them as dangerous. The T cells must then be activated, proliferate, and effectively kill the target cell.

CARs are genetically engineered cell surface receptors designed to equip a patient’s own T cells with the ability to recognize and bind to antigens (cell surface proteins) found on tumor cells.

CARs consist of an extracellular domain capable of binding tightly to a tumor antigen, fused to a signaling domain partly derived from the T-cell receptor (TCR) (Figure 1).

The CAR is activated when the extracellular domain binds to a tumor antigen, resulting in the activation of the T-cell cytotoxic response and tumor cell destruction.

The CAR extracellular domain consists of a fragment of a tumor-specific monoclonal antibody (a single-chain variable fragment, or scFv), which in most clinical trials is derived from mouse sequences. The scFv used in the most advanced clinical trials for B-cell malignancies is one directed against the cell surface protein CD19, which is expressed on the surface of the vast majority of B-cell malignancies, in addition to normal B cells. Non-B-cell expression of CD19 is extremely limited. Other potential CAR tumor target antigens under active investigation in hematologic malignancies are detailed below in Table 1.

The intracellular portion of the CAR consists of the signaling portion of the receptor, which when activated by tumor antigen binding to the scFv causes T-cell activation, proliferation and cytokine secretion to eliminate the tumor cell. Full activation of endogenous T cells requires two signals, and CARs are designed to replicate both. For CAR T cells, the first signal is provided by the intracellular signaling portion of the T-cell receptor (TCR) (the CD3 zeta [ζ] subunit, Figure 1). The second signal is provided by a “co-stimulatory” domain consisting of CD28, 4-1BB, or OX40. CARs that include a second co-stimulatory domain, referred to as “third generation CARs,” are in development with the hope of further increasing CAR anti-tumor activity.

The external antibody portion of the CAR is anchored to the membrane by linker and transmembrane sequences, which have been optimized for tumor antigen binding and signaling.

The chimeric CAR molecule thus combines the specificity of a monoclonal antibody with the cytotoxic and memory capabilities of endogenous T cells.

CAR T-cell therapy involves genetically transferring the CAR gene directly into a patient’s own T cells, which have been collected by leukapheresis. The CAR equips the T cells to recognize and destroy cancer cells when infused back into the patient.

**Figure 1. The structure of a CAR**

The extracellular, tumor-antigen recognition domain (scFv) consists of a fragment of a monoclonal antibody specific for the desired target. The intracellular signaling domain consists of a portion of the endogenous T-cell receptor (TCR) signaling domain (CD3ζ) and a co-stimulatory domain (CD28, 4-1BB, and OX40 have all been used as co-stimulatory domains in CARs in clinical trials). Binding of tumor target antigen results in T-cell activation, proliferation, and target cell elimination.

**Figure 1. Chimeric antigen receptors (CARs)**

**CAR T-cell therapy** Facts
How does CAR T-cell therapy work?

All CAR T-cell therapies require a high degree of coordination between the primary oncology team and the manufacturing facility in which the CAR T cells are generated. The primary oncology team begins by determining a patient’s eligibility for CAR T-cell therapy and provides continuing care throughout the entire process, from prescreening to long-term follow up. While specific protocols vary for different clinical trial programs, CAR T-cell therapy generally involves the following steps:

1. **Patients are screened to determine eligibility and then prepared for leukapheresis.**

In general, patients eligible for CAR T-cell therapy must:

- Have tumors that are positive for the CAR target (CD19, for example).
- Have an adequate number of T cells for collection. The threshold for a patient’s required absolute lymphocyte count varies among clinical trials.
- Not have an active, uncontrolled infection, including hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
- Have adequate performance status and organ function.
- Not have certain relevant comorbidities, such as certain cardiovascular, neurologic, or immune disorders. These may vary among clinical trials.

It is important to note that prescreening tests and precise criteria for eligibility vary by protocol, malignancy and CAR T-cell product.

2. **T cells are harvested from the patient by leukapheresis.**

The patient’s treatment regimen is frequently altered to increase the likelihood that a sufficient number of functional T cells can be collected. This may include the avoidance of:

- Corticosteroids within a certain time frame prior to leukapheresis.
- Salvage chemotherapy within a certain time frame prior to leukapheresis.

**Note:** If the patient has previously undergone allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT), the T cells used for CAR T-cell therapy may be collected from the patient or may be of donor origin, depending on the clinical trial.

Depending on the clinical trial, the collected cells may be frozen and shipped to a Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) facility for further processing. CAR T-cell manufacturing facilities are highly specialized, requiring complex infrastructure and highly skilled, knowledgeable staff. There, lymphocytes are enriched, and cell subsets (such as CD4+ and CD8+ T cells) may be selected.

3. **T cells are activated.**

The isolated T cells are placed in culture and are exposed to antibody-coated beads in order to activate them.

The capacity of T cells to grow *in vitro* varies from patient to patient. A significant number of patients have been excluded from selected clinical trials due to inadequate *in vitro* T-cell expansion capacity. The development of “off-the-shelf” CAR T-cells, described below, is an area of active investigation as a means to broaden CAR T-cell therapy.

4. **The CAR gene is introduced into activated T cells *in vitro.***

Means of introducing the CAR gene into T cells include the use of several viral vectors, which results in permanent genome modification and persistent CAR expression. These vectors have been shown to have low oncogenic potential and limited immunogenicity. Other expression systems, including plasmid-based and transient expression systems, are currently in development.

5. **The CAR T cells are expanded *in vitro.***

In order to generate sufficient numbers of CAR T cells for therapy, the cells are expanded using a variety of culture systems. The differentiation state of the CAR T cells in the final product is emerging as an important factor for both efficacy and safety, and is influenced by the cell culture system used for expansion.

Following expansion, the cells are washed, concentrated, and samples are removed for quality testing. Finally, the CAR T cells are frozen for shipment to the infusion site.
6. Meanwhile, the patient undergoes “preconditioning” chemotherapy.

In the days prior to infusion of CAR T cells, the patient undergoes chemotherapy to deplete endogenous lymphocytes, which allows for the engraftment and expansion of CAR T cells. Lymphodepletion “makes room” for the CAR T cells and reduces immunosuppressive cells that may threaten CAR T-cell expansion. Lymphodepletion also releases endogenous intracellular inflammatory cytokines, which promote CAR T-cell activity once the cells are infused. Preconditioning regimens vary by protocol and by individual patient. Alternative methods to facilitate CAR T-cell expansion without first lymphodepleting the patient are under active investigation.

7. The CAR T cells are infused back into the patient.

The cells, which are delivered to the infusion site and kept in a frozen state until just before the infusion, are thawed and infused into the patient. Depending on the clinical trial, cells may be infused in the inpatient setting or outpatient setting with close monitoring.

The dose of CAR T cells varies by protocol; optimal cell doses, number of doses, and infusion timing that provide maximal efficacy with minimal toxicity are areas of active investigation.

CAR T cells generally reach peak levels between 1 and 2 weeks after infusion. The degree of expansion and persistence of CAR T cells is one indicator of CAR T-cell efficacy. The capacity for CAR T cells to develop into memory cells has been demonstrated – instances of sustained persistence of CD19-directed CAR T cells out to 4 years have been reported.
Clinical trial results

Efficacy

The most advanced clinical trials have evaluated CD19-directed CAR T-cell therapy for the treatment of relapsed and refractory B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (r/r B-ALL). While various studies differed in patient selection criteria, CAR design, method of gene transfer, cell culture techniques, preconditioning regimens, and the timing and dose of cell infusions, high efficacy has been observed at multiple centers. While clinical trial data are continually being updated, complete response rates have ranged from 70% to 90%, and lasting remissions have been reported. Relapse occurs, and may in some cases be related to tumor cells losing expression of CD19 (CD19 “escape variants”) or limited persistence of CAR T cells. Relapse data are continually being updated as patients proceed further out from treatment.

Encouraging clinical responses have also been reported in trials of CD19-directed CAR T cells for the treatment of r/r chronic lymphocytic leukemia (r/r CLL) and non-Hodgkin lymphoma (r/r B-NHL). While encouraging, response rates for CAR T-cell therapy for the treatment of r/r CLL and r/r B-NHL have not approached those seen in B-ALL. Clinical trials of CD19 CARs are underway for the treatment of multiple myeloma (MM).

While many patients with B-ALL that have undergone successful CAR T-cell therapy proceed to allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT), other patients have not. Precisely how CAR T-cell therapy will fit into current treatment paradigms – whether it will best serve as a replacement for transplant or a bridge to transplant – is still an open question.

Relapses may not respond to a second infusion of the same CAR T cells. This may be due to multiple factors:
1. The relapse may be due to escape variants, in which the malignancy no longer expresses the target antigen.
2. The CARs, especially murine components of the scFv, may be immunogenic, such that the patient’s immune system eliminates a second infusion of CAR T cells due to an immune response. Approaches to treating relapse due to escape variants, including using CAR T cells directed against a second target, are under investigation. Efforts are being made to change the structure of the CAR to make it less immunogenic, for instance, by incorporating scFv without any murine components.

CD19 has proven to be an effective CAR target for many B-cell malignancies. Other CARs in clinical trials target additional markers found on a wide variety of hematologic malignancies, detailed in Table 1. “Ideal” target antigens for CAR T-cell therapy would be restricted to tumor cells. However, most CAR T-cell targets are also expressed on normal cells. The tissue distribution of the marker must be taken into consideration in order to avoid the destruction of non-malignant or essential cells. While the markers listed in Table 1 have been identified as present on a significant percentage of the malignancies indicated, tumor marker expression may need to be confirmed before a patient can be considered for a particular CAR T-cell therapy.

Identification of additional tumor markers that can be leveraged for CAR T-cell therapy is an area of active investigation.

Table 1. CAR T-cell targets under investigation for hematologic malignancies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MARKERS (POTENTIAL CAR TARGETS) PRESENT ON HEMATOLOGIC MALIGNANCIES</th>
<th>CD19</th>
<th>CD20</th>
<th>CD22</th>
<th>CD30</th>
<th>CD33</th>
<th>CD123</th>
<th>ROR1</th>
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B-ALL = B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia  
CLL = chronic lymphocytic leukemia  
AML = acute myeloid leukemia  
NHL = non-Hodgkin lymphoma  
HL = Hodgkin lymphoma  
SLL = small lymphocytic lymphoma  
FL = follicular lymphoma  
DLBCL = diffuse large B-cell lymphoma  
MCL = mantle cell lymphoma  
MM = multiple myeloma  
ROR1 = receptor tyrosine kinase-like orphan receptor 1  
BCMA = B-cell maturation agent  
NKG2D = natural-killer group 2, member D
Facts about CAR T-Cell Therapy

Safety

While CAR T-cell therapy has shown tremendous promise, data from clinical trials reveal a similar pattern of serious toxicities. Consideration of CAR T-cell therapy should take into account the potential for circulating CAR T cells to persist for years. While toxicity grading systems have been developed, there is currently no uniform, consistent grading system, making generalizations difficult. Toxicity prevention and management are primary focuses of current investigation.

Cytokine release syndrome (CRS)

CRS is a systemic inflammatory response due to high circulating levels of inflammatory cytokines, resulting from CAR T-cell expansion and activation in response to tumor antigen binding. Some degree of CRS has been observed in most CD19-directed CAR T-cell clinical trials, ranging from mild flu-like symptoms (malaise, fatigue, myalgia, nausea, anorexia) to high fever, tachycardia, hypotension, hypoxia and organ failure requiring vasopressors, ventilatory support and supportive care in the ICU.

CRS typically occurs within the first 1 to 3 weeks after cell infusion. CRS severity appears to correlate with disease burden in B-ALL. CRS grading systems and treatment algorithms have been established as part of each treatment protocol and may be center-specific.

Severe CRS can be mitigated by the use of anti-IL-6 receptor monoclonal antibody (e.g., tocilizumab) and corticosteroids; however, corticosteroids have the disadvantage of potentially dampening the anti-tumor response. Tocilizumab is frequently used as a front-line treatment for severe CRS, though assessment of its effect on CAR T-cell proliferation and activity is ongoing. The reported incidence of CRS of any severity following CD19-targeted CAR T-cell therapy varies widely among clinical trials. In the majority of cases, CRS is reversible, and depending on management strategies, typically resolves in patients with B-ALL by 2 to 3 weeks postinfusion. However, patient deaths have occurred as a result of severe CRS following CAR T-cell therapy.

Neurotoxicity

Neurotoxicity has often been observed in clinical trials with CD19-directed CAR T-cell therapy. The incidence of neurotoxicity (of any severity) reported in different clinical trials has varied widely. Symptoms include confusion, delirium, dysphasia, global encephalopathy and seizures. Symptoms of neurotoxicity may not occur at the same time as CRS and may not be controlled by IL-6 receptor blocking with tocilizumab. Effective management strategies are under active investigation. Treatment approaches include corticosteroids and supportive care, which may include anti-epileptic medication.

Patients experiencing neurotoxicity may require ICU support, depending on the severity of symptoms. Patients with mild symptoms can sometimes be observed without receiving steroids. A neurologist is often consulted. The mechanism of neurotoxicity is unknown, though CAR T-cells have been found in the spinal fluid of affected patients. While reversible in the majority of cases, cerebral edema associated with neurotoxicity is a rare but potentially fatal complication of CAR T-cell therapy, and deaths have occurred as a result.

Macrophage activation syndrome (MAS)/lymphohistiocytosis

MAS typically occurs concurrently with CRS, with many clinical manifestations overlapping. Laboratory findings associated with the activation of macrophages include high levels of ferritin, C-reactive protein (CRP) and d-dimer. Transaminitis and elevated triglycerides have been observed, with hypofibrinogenemia and bleeding occurring in a small number of patients. IL-6 receptor blocking therapy with tocilizumab has been effective for treating both MAS and CRS.

B-cell aplasia (“on-target, off-tumor” toxicity)

Normal B cells and B-cell precursors express CD19, and B-cell aplasia is an expected consequence of successful CD19-directed CAR T-cell therapy that can last for months or years. Patients may receive immunoglobulin replacement therapy and appropriate antimicrobial prophylaxis.

A summary of the toxicities associated with CD19-directed CAR T-cell therapy, in addition to timing and management strategies, is shown in Table 2.
# Table 2. Toxicities associated with CD19-directed CAR T-cell therapy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Toxicity</th>
<th>Signs and Symptoms</th>
<th>Timing</th>
<th>Management</th>
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</table>
| Cytokine release syndrome (CRS)               | Fever, myalgia, hypotension, hypoxia, potential organ failure                                          | Usually within the first 1-3 weeks postinfusion | • Tocilizumab  
• Corticosteroids  
• Severe CRS may require vasopressors, ventilatory support and supportive care in the ICU |
| Neurotoxicity                                 | Confusion, delirium, hallucinations, encephalopathy, aphasia, facial paresis, mutism, myoclonus, tremors, somnolence, seizures | May not be concurrent with CRS | • Corticosteroids  
• Supportive care, which may include anti-epileptic medication                                  |
| Macrophage activation syndrome (MAS)          | High levels of ferritin, CRP, d-dimer; hypofibrinogenemia associated with bleeding, transaminitis and elevated triglycerides | Concurrently or shortly after CRS | • Tocilizumab                                                                                     |
| B-cell aplasia                                | Hypogammaglobulinemia                                                                                  | Within first few weeks postinfusion, may last indefinitely | • Immunoglobulin replacement therapy  
• Prophylactic antibiotics in some cases                                                               |

CRP = C-reactive protein
## The future

Strategies to maximize outcomes of CAR T-cell therapies, minimize toxicities, broaden targets beyond CD19, and target solid tumors are all areas of active investigation. In addition, standards establishing how CAR T-cell therapy might best fit within current treatment paradigms have not yet been determined.

### Improving CAR T-cell safety

Efforts to manage the risk of serious toxicity include:

1. Developing methods to predict individual patient risk of CRS and neurotoxicity so that the dose and timing of CAR T-cell infusion can be adjusted accordingly ("risk-adapted dosing").

2. Modulation of CAR T-cell activity and persistence, including:
   - Development of CARs that are activated only in the presence of small molecule drugs that can be administered according to patient tolerability (known as “switchable” or “multi-chain” CARs).
   - “Suicide” systems, allowing for the destruction of CAR T cells should life-threatening toxicity occur. Numerous methods are in development, including co-expressing pro-apoptotic genes under the control of inducible promoters along with the CAR gene.
   - Transient expression systems that provide CAR expression only for approximately 7 days. Repeated CAR T-cell infusions would theoretically be required for effective disease control.

3. Improving the specificity of CARs. Efforts have included the development of:
   - "Affinity-tuned" CARs, designed with a lower affinity for the target antigen, theoretically narrowing CAR targeting only to tumor cells that greatly overexpress the antigen.
   - “Tandem” CARs, in which the two CAR cytoplasmic signaling domains are separated onto two different CAR molecules having different tumor target specificities. CAR T-cell activation results only in the presence of both target antigens, increasing specificity.

### Improving CAR T-cell efficacy

Numerous efforts to improve the efficacy and persistence of CAR T cells are underway and include:

1. Combining CAR T cells with other therapies, including PD-1 blocking antibodies or kinase inhibitors.

2. Development of “armored CARs” that co-express pro-inflammatory cytokines such as IL-12 or IL-15 to allow for increased CAR T-cell proliferation and persistence in the face of tumor-mediated immunosuppression.

3. Co-expression of two CARs that target different antigens (CD19 and CD22, for example) with the goal of reducing remissions due to escape variants.

4. Incorporating human-derived rather than mouse-derived scFv domains into CARs in order to avoid immune responses targeted to murine sequences in the CAR extracellular domain, which have been observed.

### Improving and streamlining the manufacturing process

Efforts to streamline and standardize the manufacture of CAR T cells in a cost-effective and time-efficient manner are underway. These include the development of “universal” or “off-the-shelf” CARs, which lack endogenous T-cell markers, allowing for allogeneic CAR T-cell therapy. This would streamline production while broadening CAR T-cell therapy to those patients who lack sufficient numbers of endogenous T cells for processing.

While CAR T-cell therapy holds great promise, it is not yet available outside of clinical trial programs. Several groups anticipate submitting CAR T-cell therapies for FDA approval for the treatment of B-ALL, NHL and CLL within the next several years. Emerging data from these trials will continue to inform the protocols and procedures that must be refined before this therapy is broadly available in the clinic.
Frequently asked questions

1. Which patients are considered good candidates for CAR T-cell therapy?
Currently, patients enrolled in CAR T-cell clinical trials are those with advanced relapsed or refractory disease. The suitability of CAR T-cell therapy as a first line treatment in hematologic malignancies has not been studied. While protocols vary for each trial, in general, patients eligible for CAR T-cell therapy must:

- Have tumors that are positive for the CAR target (CD19, for example)
- Have an adequate number of Tcells for collection. The threshold for a patient's required lymphocyte count varies among clinical trials.
- Not have an active, uncontrolled infection, including hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or HIV.
- Have adequate performance status and organ function.
- Not have certain relevant comorbidities, such as certain cardiovascular, neurologic, or immune disorders. These may vary among clinical trials.

2. Where does the infusion of CAR T cells take place?
Depending on the clinical trial, cells may be infused in the inpatient setting, or the outpatient setting with careful monitoring.

3. Can steroids be used in patients receiving CAR T-cell therapy?
While corticosteroids have been used to manage acute toxicity, they have been shown to decrease CAR T-cell efficacy, though to what degree is unclear. Generally, steroids are avoided for patients who have fully recovered from acute toxicities.

4. Does successful CAR T-cell therapy eliminate the need for transplant?
The standard of care for patients who achieve complete remission with conventional treatment for B-ALL is to proceed with allogeneic HSCT; however, whether this is warranted in all cases after successful CAR T-cell therapy is an open question.

5. How do we help connect patients to the appropriate clinical trials?
Information Specialists at The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society engage patients in conversations about the role of clinical trials in their treatment, help them develop a list of questions to ask their doctor about participating in a clinical trial, provide personalized clinical trial navigation when appropriate, and assist in trying to overcome the obstacles to enrollment. Contact: 800.955.4572.

References:


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We’re Here to Help
LLS is the world’s largest voluntary health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research, education and patient services. LLS has chapters throughout the country and in Canada. To find the chapter nearest to you, visit our website at www.LLS.org/chapterfind or contact

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
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Rye Brook, NY 10573
Phone Number: (800) 955-4572
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Website: www.LLS.org
Email: infocenter@LLS.org

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Consult with an Information Specialist. Information Specialists are master’s level oncology social workers, nurses and health educators. They offer up-to-date disease and treatment information. Language services are available. For more information, please:
- Call: (800) 955-4572 (M-F, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET)
- Email: infocenter@LLS.org
- Live chat: www.LLS.org/informationspecialists

Clinical Trials Support Center. Clinical trials for new treatments are ongoing. Patients and healthcare professionals can learn about clinical trials and how to access them. When appropriate, personalized clinical trial navigation by trained nurses is also available. For more information, please:
- Call: (800) 955-4572 to speak with our LLS Information Specialists who can help conduct clinical trial searches
- Visit: www.LLS.org/clinicaltrials

Free Information Booklets. LLS offers free education and support publications that can either be read online or downloaded. Free print versions can be ordered. For more information, please visit: www.LLS.org/booklets.
- CAR T-Cell Therapy Facts for patients:
  www.LLS.org/booklets and select treatments.

LLS Webpage on CAR T-Cell Therapy.
www.LLS.org/CART

Información en Español. (LLS information in Spanish.) For more information, please visit: www.LLS.org/español.

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  www.LLS.org/CE
- Patient/caregiver education programs:
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LLS Community. LLS Community is an online social network and registry for patients, caregivers, and healthcare professionals. It is a place to ask questions, get informed, share your experience, and connect with others. To join visit: www.LLS.org/community

LLS Chapters. LLS offers community support and services in the United States and Canada including the Patti Robinson Kaufmann First Connection Program (a peer-to-peer support program), in-person support groups, and other great resources. For more information about these programs or to contact your chapter, please:
- Call: (800) 955-4572
- Visit: www.LLS.org/chapterfind

Additional Resource
The National Cancer Institute (NCI)
www.cancer.gov
(800) 422-6237

The National Cancer Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health, is a national resource center for information and education about all forms of cancer, including CAR T-cell therapy. The NCI also provides a clinical trial search feature, the PDQ® Cancer Clinical Trials Registry, at www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials, where healthcare professionals and patients can look for clinical trials.