




**BEATING  
CANCER  
IS IN  
OUR BLOOD.**

**LIVING WITH  
CHRONIC  
MYELOID  
LEUKEMIA (CML)**

**Charles A. Schiffer, MD**  
*Emeritus Professor, Oncology*  
 Karmanos Cancer Institute  
 Wayne State University School of Medicine  
 Detroit, MI

 **LEUKEMIA &  
LYMPHOMA  
SOCIETY**

**WELCOMING REMARKS**  
 Living With Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML)



**Lizette Figueroa-Rivera**  
 Sr. Director, Education & Support  
 The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

**BEATING CANCER IS IN OUR BLOOD.**

 **LEUKEMIA &  
LYMPHOMA  
SOCIETY**

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**WELCOMING REMARKS**

Living With Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML)



**Mel Mann, MBA, M.ED**

CML Patient since 1995

BEATING CANCER IS IN OUR BLOOD.



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**DISCLOSURES**

Living With Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML)

**Charles A. Schiffer, MD**, has affiliations with Agios, BMS, Merck, Novartis (*Consultant*); Takeda (*Grant Support*); Astellas, BMS/Celgene, Kartos, Syndax (*Data and Safety Monitoring Board*).

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# AFTER 20+ YEARS OF IMATINIB, WHERE DO THINGS STAND IN CML?

Charles A. Schiffer, MD  
Professor Emeritus of Oncology  
Karmanos Cancer Institute  
Wayne State University School of Medicine

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## A Minute Chromosome in Human Chronic Granulocytic Leukemia

In seven cases thus far investigated (five males, two females), a minute chromosome has been observed replacing one of the four smallest autosomes in the chromosome complement of cells of chronic granulocytic leukemia cultured from peripheral blood. No abnormality was observed in the cells of four cases of acute granulocytic leukemia in adults or of six cases of acute leukemia in children. There have been several recent reports of chromosome abnormalities in a number of cases of human leukemia [including two of the seven cases reported here: Nowell and Hungerford, *J. Natl. Cancer Inst.* 25, 85 (1960)], but no series has appeared in which there was a consistent change typical of a particular type of leukemia. Cells of the five new cases were obtained from peripheral blood (and bone marrow in one instance), grown in culture for 24-72 hours, and processed for cytological examination by a recently developed air-drying technique (Moorhead, et al., *Exptl. Cell Research*, in press). The patients varied from asymptomatic untreated cases to extensively treated

cases of several years duration in terminal myeloblastic crisis. All seven individuals showed a similar minute chromosome, and none showed any other frequent or regular chromosome change. In most of the cases, cells with normal chromosomes were also observed. Thus, the minute is not a part of the normal chromosome constitution of such individuals.

The findings suggest a causal relationship between the chromosome abnormality observed and chronic granulocytic leukemia.

PETER C. NOWELL

School of Medicine,  
University of Pennsylvania

DAVID A. HUNGERFORD

Institute for Cancer Research

# 1960

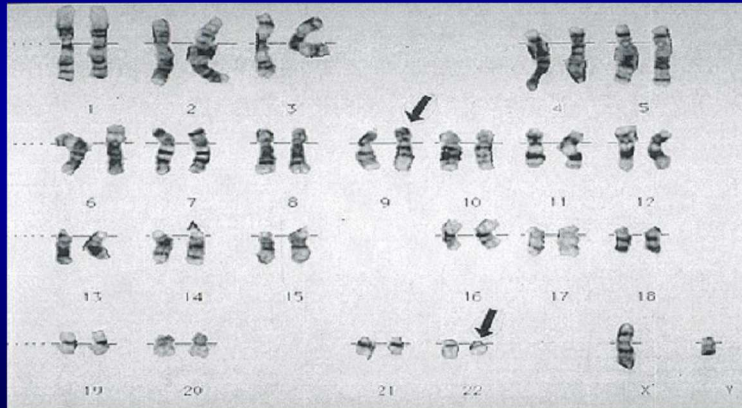
A minute chromosome in human granulocytic leukemia. *Science* 132, 1960, 1497.

P.C. Nowell, D.A. Hungerford,  
University of Pennsylvania in  
Philadelphia

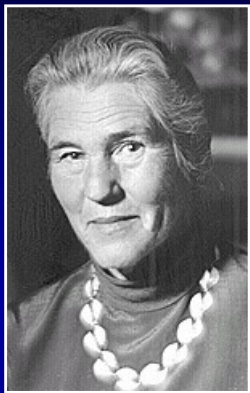
...the findings *suggest a causal relationship* between the chromosome abnormality observed and chronic granulocytic leukemia...

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## Cytogenetic Abnormality of CML: The Philadelphia Chromosome



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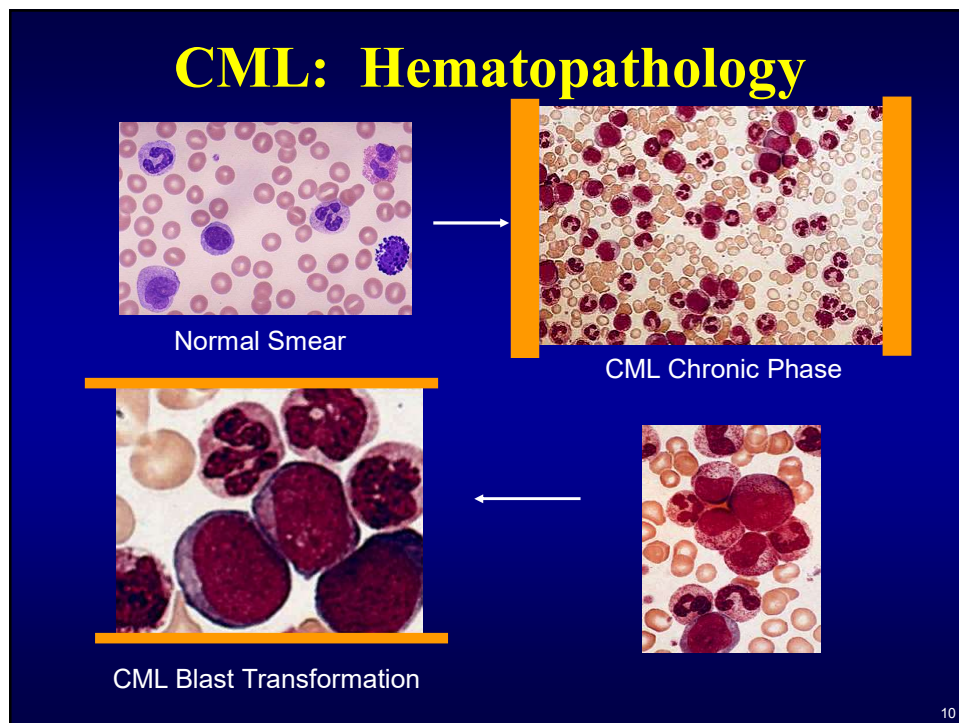
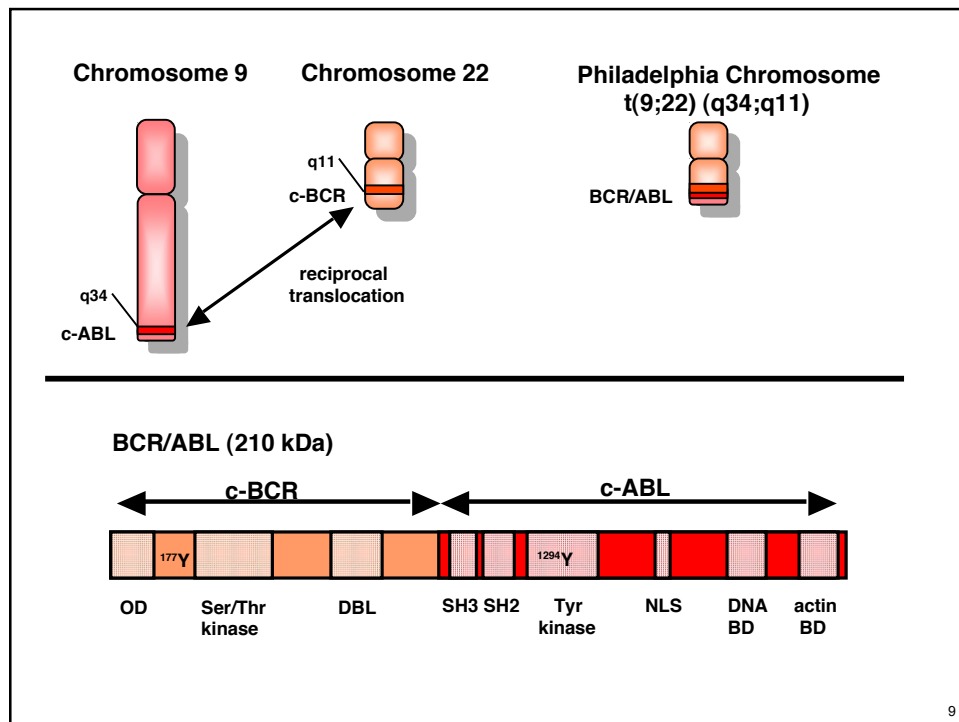


### 1973: translocation of chromosomal material

- Rowley JD: A new consistent chromosomal abnormality in chronic myelogenous leukemia identified by quinacrine fluorescence and Giemsa staining. *Nature*, 243, 290-293, 1973

- ...suggesting that there may be a hitherto **undetected translocation** between the long arm of **22** and the long arm of **9**, producing the 9q+ chromosome...

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## Italian Cooperative Study Group

- Allogeneic transplantation from HLA fully matched siblings was the only available curative therapy
- But...
  - Age limit of 45-50 years
  - ~ 25% TRM
  - Results were better when done soon after diagnosis such that an unsuccessful transplant could actually shorten survival

Years

IFN	218	203	188	162	137	117	101	83	68	49	17
CHT	104	99	88	74	56	45	31	26	22	17	5

*Blood*. 1998; 92:1541.

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MAY 29, 2003 www.time.com AOL Keyword: TIME

# TIME

**THERE IS NEW AMMUNITION  
IN THE WAR AGAINST  
CANCER.  
THESE ARE THE BULLETS.**

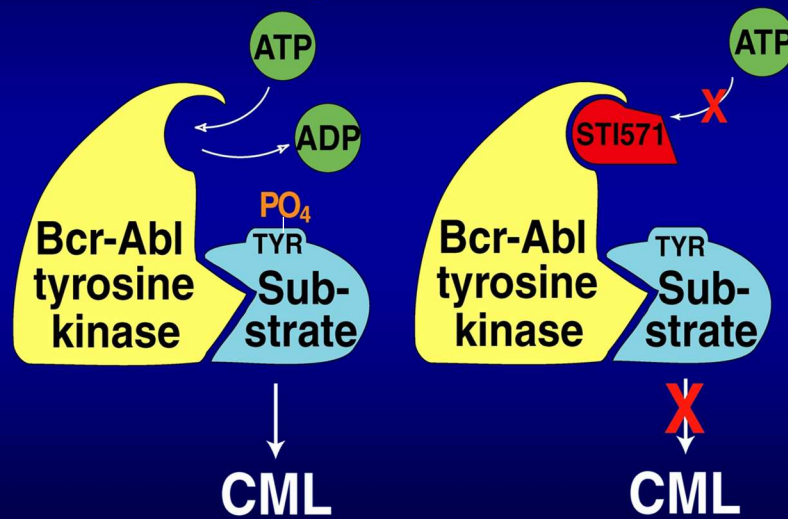
Revolutionary new pills like **GLEEVEC** combat cancer by targeting only the diseased cells. Is this the breakthrough we've been waiting for?



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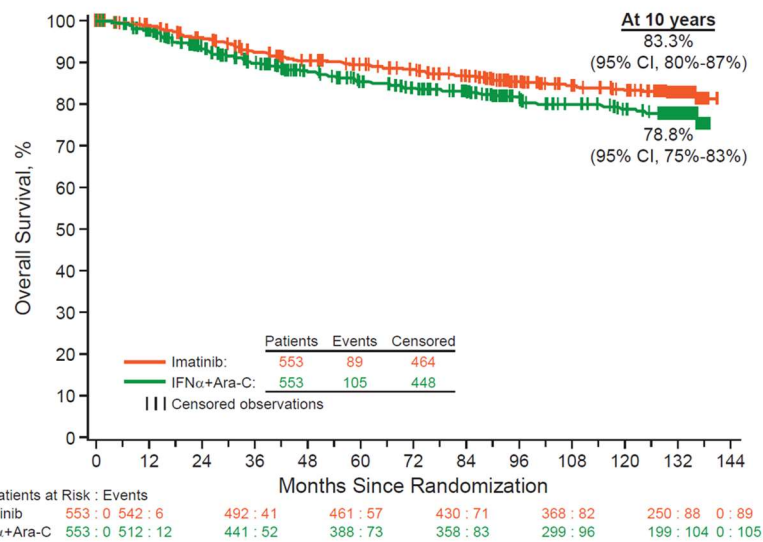


## Bcr-Abl as a Therapeutic Target for CML



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### The IRIS Trial: Imatinib vs Interferon + AraC



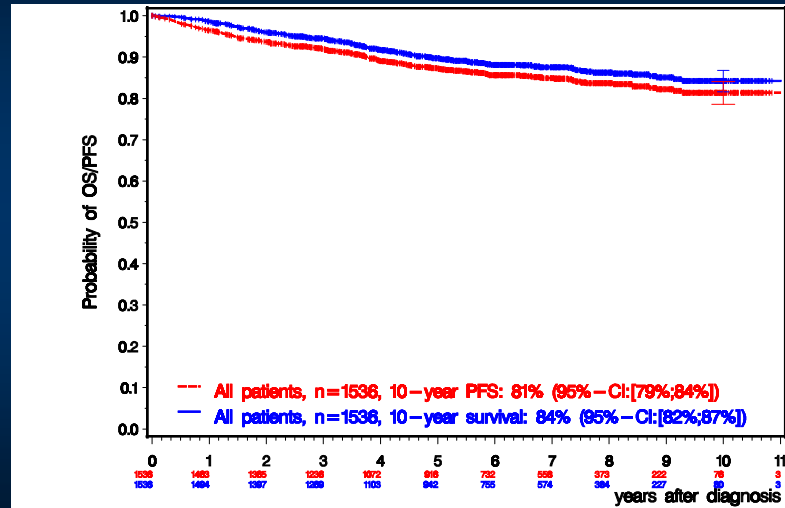
THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CHICAGO MEDICINE &  
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

A Hochhaus, RA Larson, F Guilhot, et al.  
New Engl J Med 2017

CML, March 2017

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## 10-year OS and PFS CML-Study IV, all patients



German CML Study Group, unpublished

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## OUTCOMES IN LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

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# JCO® Global Oncology

An American Society of Clinical Oncology Journal

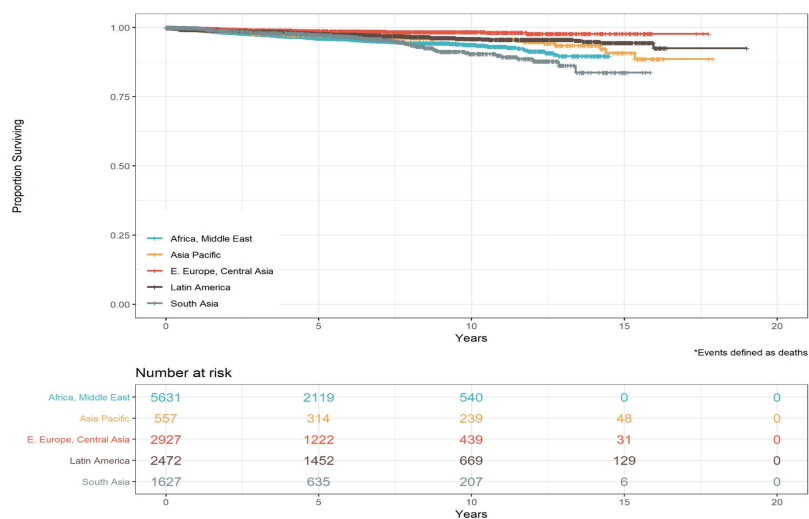
**Novel Humanitarian Aid Program: The Glivec International Patient Assistance Program—Lessons Learned From Providing Access to Breakthrough Targeted Oncology Treatment in Low- and Middle-Income Countries – P. Garcia-Hernandez et al 1:35, 2015**



Albania	Botswana	Ecuador	Honduras	Mali	Nigeria	Saint Lucia	Thailand
Argentina	Burkina Faso	El Salvador	India	Mauritius	Pakistan	Senegal	Togo
Armenia	Cambodia	Ethiopia	Indonesia	Mexico	Panama	Seychelles	Turkey
Azerbaijan	Cameroon	Fiji	Jamaica	Moldova	Papua New Guinea	Singapore	Uganda
Bahamas	Chile	Gabon	Kazakhstan	Mongolia	Paraguay	Solomon Islands	Uruguay
Bangladesh	China	Georgia	Kenya	Morocco	Rwanda	South Africa	Uzbekistan
Belarus	Colombia	Ghana	Kyrgyzstan	Namibia	Philippines	Sri Lanka	Venezuela
Benin	Cote d'Ivoire	Guatemala	Madagascar	Nepal	Republic of Congo	Sudan	Vietnam
Bhutan	Dominican Republic	Guinea	Malawi	Nicaragua	Russia	Surinam	Zambia
Bolivia	East Timor	Haiti	Malaysia	Niger	Rwanda	Tanzania	Zimbabwe

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## Overall survival (OS) CML patients receiving first line glivec



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**Imatinib (1999-2000):  
and within a couple of years....**

- Nilotinib
- Dasatinib

**And a few years later...**

- Bosutinib
- Ponatinib

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**The Chemical Structure of TKIs**

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The logo for the journal 'blood' is displayed in a large, dark red, serif font.

Prepublished online April 25, 2013;  
doi:10.1182/blood-2013-03-490003

**Price of drugs for chronic myeloid leukemia (CML), reflection of the  
unsustainable cancer drug prices: perspective of CML Experts**

Experts in chronic myeloid leukemia

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## **PERHAPS THE MOST CRITICAL COMPONENT OF CML CARE WITH TKIs**

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- **COMPLIANCE**
- **COMPLIANCE**
- **COMPLIANCE**

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## Major Treatment Decisions

- Initial therapy
  - imatinib
- Dose adjustment of TKIs because of intolerance
- Stopping treatment

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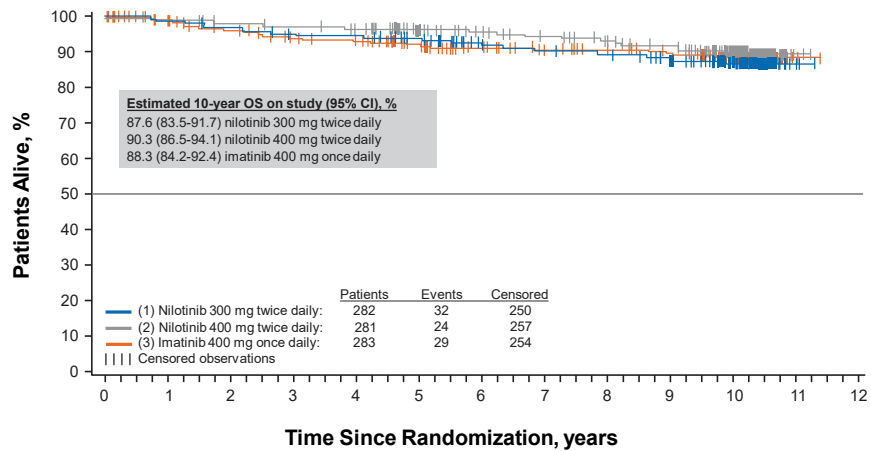
Poster 2924

### Long-Term Outcomes in Patients with Chronic Myeloid Leukemia in Chronic Phase Receiving Frontline Nilotinib vs Imatinib: ENESTnd 10-Year Analysis

Timothy P. Hughes,<sup>1</sup> Giuseppe Saglio,<sup>2</sup> Richard A. Larson,<sup>3</sup> Hagop Kantarjian,<sup>4</sup> Dong-Wook Kim,<sup>5</sup> Surapol Issaragrisil,<sup>6</sup> Philipp le Coutre,<sup>7</sup> Gabriel Etienne,<sup>8</sup> Carla Boquimpani,<sup>9</sup> Richard E. Clark,<sup>10</sup> Viviane Dubruille,<sup>11</sup> Ian W. Flinn,<sup>12</sup> Slawomira Kyrz-Krzemien,<sup>13</sup> Ewa Medras,<sup>14</sup> Maria Zanichelli,<sup>15</sup> Israel Bendit,<sup>16</sup> Manu Sondhi,<sup>17</sup> Ksenia Titorenko,<sup>18</sup> Claire Nourry-Boulot,<sup>19</sup> Paola Aimone,<sup>19</sup> and Andreas Hochhaus<sup>20</sup>

<sup>1</sup>South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute, Adelaide, SA, Australia; <sup>2</sup>Division of Internal Medicine & Hematology, University of Turin, Turin, Italy; <sup>3</sup>Department of Medicine, Section of Hematology/Oncology, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL; <sup>4</sup>The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; <sup>5</sup>Seoul St. Mary's Hospital, College of Medicine, Catholic University of Korea, Seoul, South Korea; <sup>6</sup>Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, THA; <sup>7</sup>Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany; <sup>8</sup>Hematology Department, Institut Bergonié, Bordeaux, France; <sup>9</sup>HEMORIO - Institute of Hematology in Rio de Janeiro and Oncoclinica Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; <sup>10</sup>Royal Liverpool University Hospital, Liverpool, United Kingdom; <sup>11</sup>Clinical Hematology, Nantes University Hospital, Nantes, France; <sup>12</sup>Sarah Cannon Research Institute, Nashville, TN; <sup>13</sup>Department of Hematology and Bone Marrow Transplantation, Medical University of Silesia, Katowice, Poland; <sup>14</sup>Department of Hematology, Blood Neoplasms and Bone Marrow Transplantation, Wrocław Medical University, Wrocław, Poland; <sup>15</sup>Instituto de Tratamento do Câncer Infantil, Instituto da Criança, Hospital das Clínicas, Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil; <sup>16</sup>Serviço de Hematologia do Hospital das Clínicas da FMUSP, São Paulo, Brazil; <sup>17</sup>Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, East Hanover, NJ; <sup>18</sup>Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, Moscow, Russian Federation; <sup>19</sup>Novartis Pharma AG, Basel, Switzerland; <sup>20</sup>Universitätsklinikum Jena, Jena, Germany

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Figure 6. KM-Estimated Overall Survival<sup>a</sup>

## No. at risk: events

(1)	282:0	271:2	263:7	254:13	249:16	232:17	214:21	207:25	204:27	194:31	152:31	2:32	0:32
(2)	281:0	270:2	264:6	261:8	256:9	235:10	221:11	211:14	200:17	192:21	148:23	2:24	0:24
(3)	283:0	274:2	262:10	250:16	245:18	225:22	208:23	199:24	192:24	184:26	141:29	2:29	0:29

\* OS was defined as death due to any cause during the core or extension phase (including follow-up after discontinuation of treatment).

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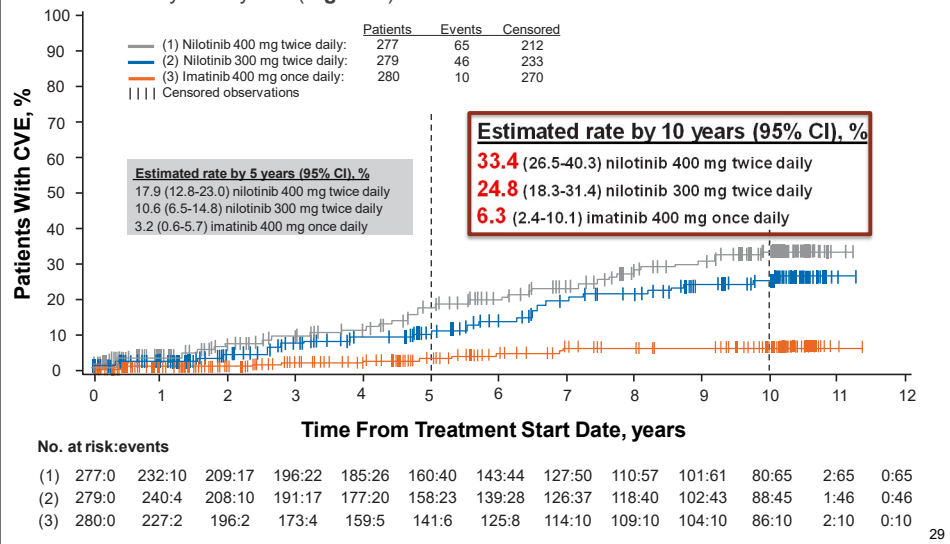
## INITIAL THERAPY -- IMATINIB

- All randomized trials comparing imatinib with second generation TKIs (nilotinib, dasatinib, bosutinib) have shown results similar to this with faster responses but no survival advantage
- ~ 30-40% of patients are switched from their original TKI to alternatives because of real or perceived inadequate response or toxicity
- Many patients are maintained long term using doses lower than the original “standard” dose
- Treatment free remission (TFR) was not assessed in any of the large trials

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## KM-Estimated Time to First Cardiovascular Event

- Cardiovascular event (CVE) rates in the first 5 years in each arm were similar to the rates beyond 5 years (**Figure 8**)



## LONGER TERM FOLLOW-UP OF SECOND GENERATION TKIs

**Dasatinib** - late pleural effusions, pulmonary hypertension; T/NK cells

**Nilotinib** – hyperglycemia, peripheral arterial occlusive disease, other arterial thromboses

**Bosutinib** – less information

**Ponatinib** - MAJOR arterial thrombotic issues



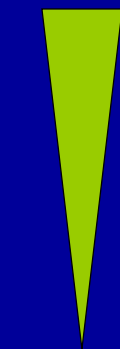
## MONITORING RESPONSE WITH PCR

- Test blood rather than repeated bone marrows
- Can detect a single abnormal transcript among ~ 100,000 normal cells
- Initially every 3 months stretching to every 6 months in long term responders

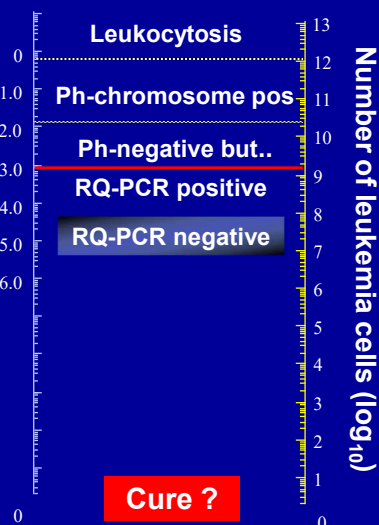
31

## BCR-ABL transcript numbers expressed as log reduction in responding CML patients

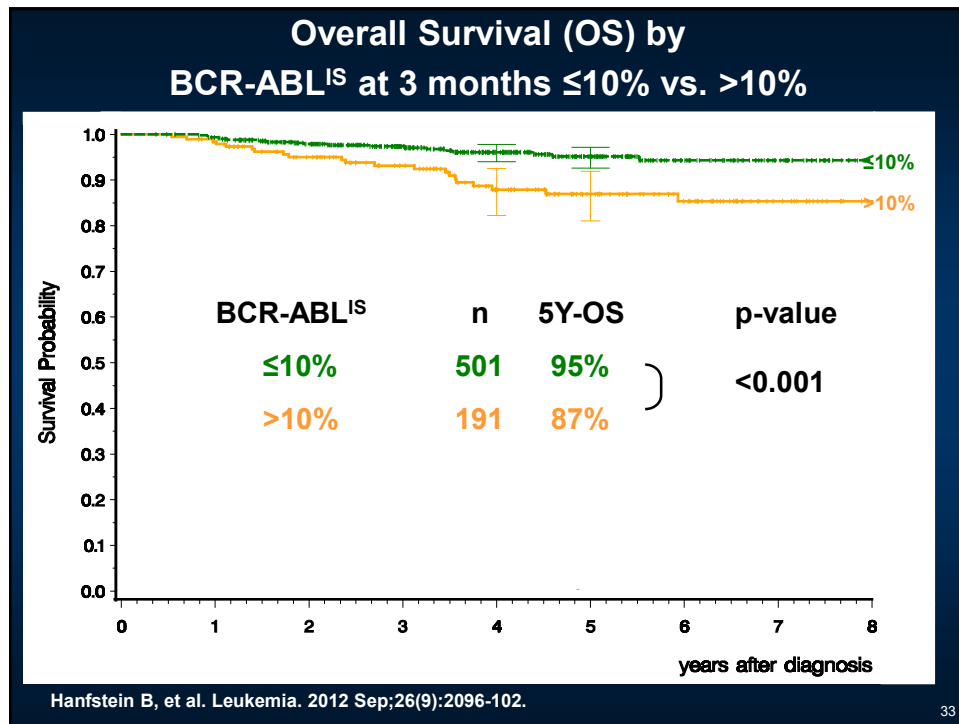
Decreasing residual leukemia



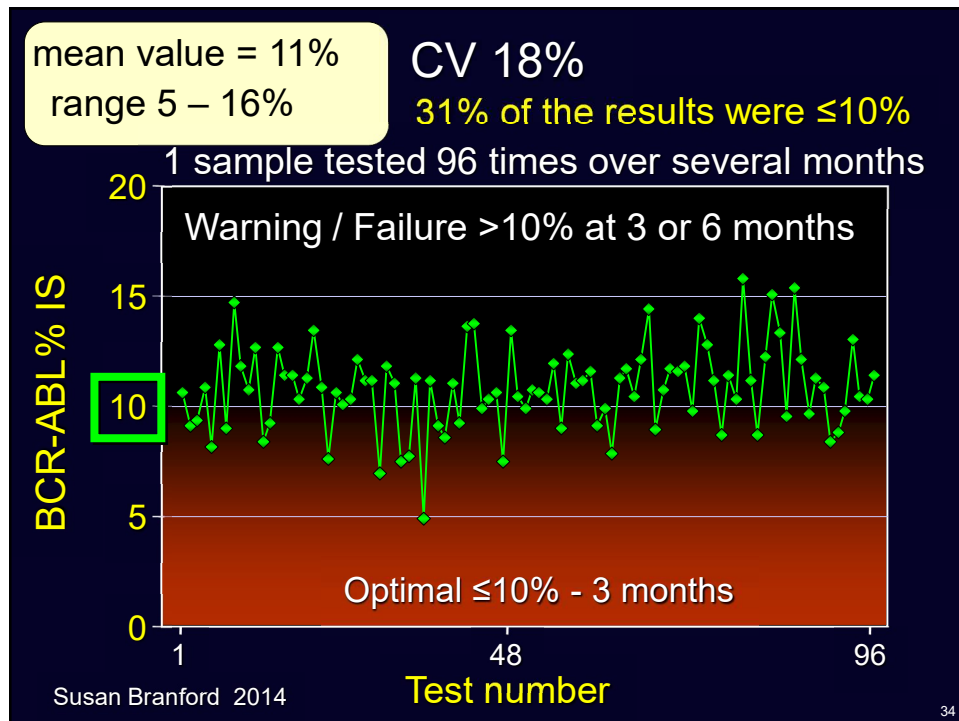
Log reduction from baseline



32

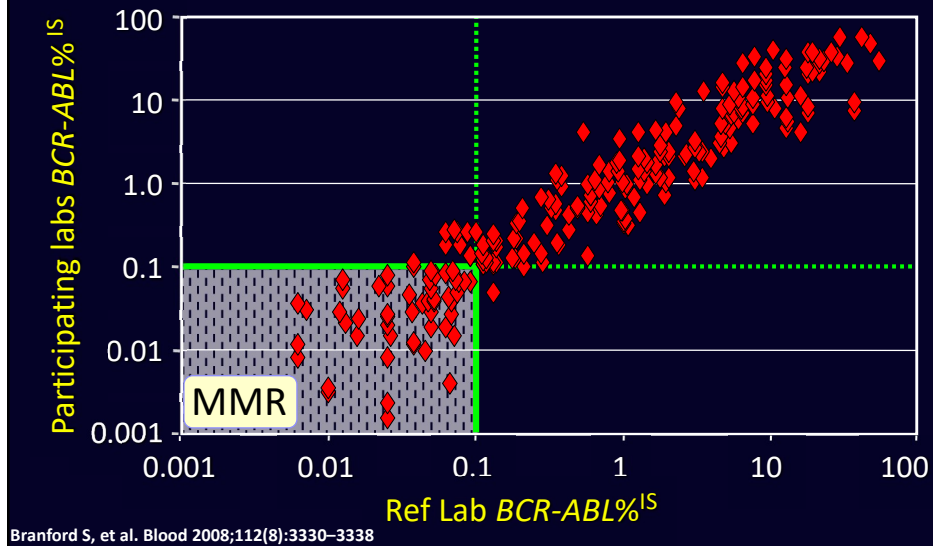


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**RT-qPCR results at low levels are inevitably more variable than those at high levels**



## Can you rely on a single assessment?

**Technical issue:**

Duplicate values are .98% and 1.2%,  
which gets reported as 1%

**For the > 1- 10% group:**

**Does 1.01 = 9.99?**

**Is .99 different than 1.01?**

# PCRITIS

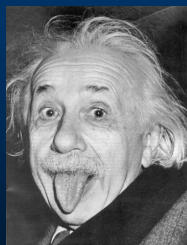
## Side effects

- Confused physicians
- Inappropriate dose increase
- Inappropriate referral for transplantation
- Inappropriate switch to new TKI
- Patient anxiety

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***"Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted, counts."***

**Albert Einstein**



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## Treatment Free Remission (TFR)

### Perspectives



#### Moving treatment-free remission into mainstream clinical practice in CML

Timothy P. Hughes and David M. Ross

128:17, 2016

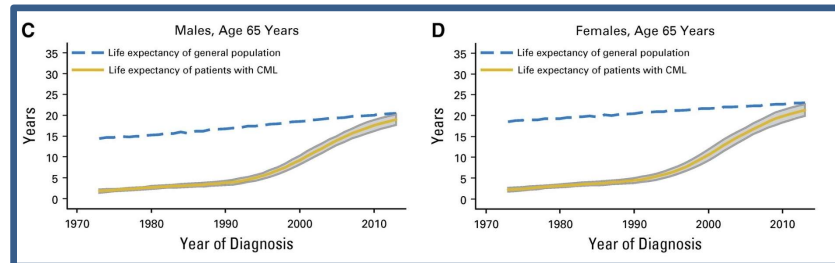
39

## POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF STOPPING TKIs

- It's better not to take medications you don't need
- Pregnancy
- Reduction or elimination of TKI toxicities
  - Low grade, chronic
  - More severe side effects which haven't happened yet (particularly cardiovascular)
- The allure of the concept of "cure"
- **COST**

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## Life Expectancy of Patients with CML



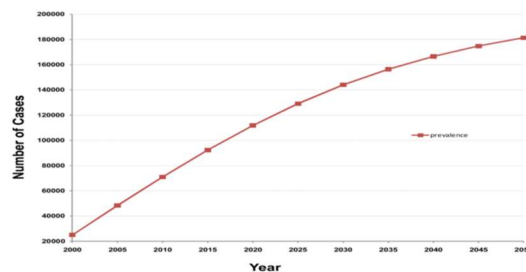
Patients of all ages diagnosed with CML will lose < 3 life-years as a result of CML

Bower et al. J Clin Oncol. 2016 Aug 20;34(24):2851-7



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## CML Prevalence in the US



- By 2050 the prevalence of CML will plateau at 180,000
- Current prevalence  $\cong$  30,000 patients
- Current annual cost of TKI's is  $\cong$  \$100,000
- Annual cost of drugs alone in the US:  $30,000 \times \$100,000 \cong \$3,000,000,000$

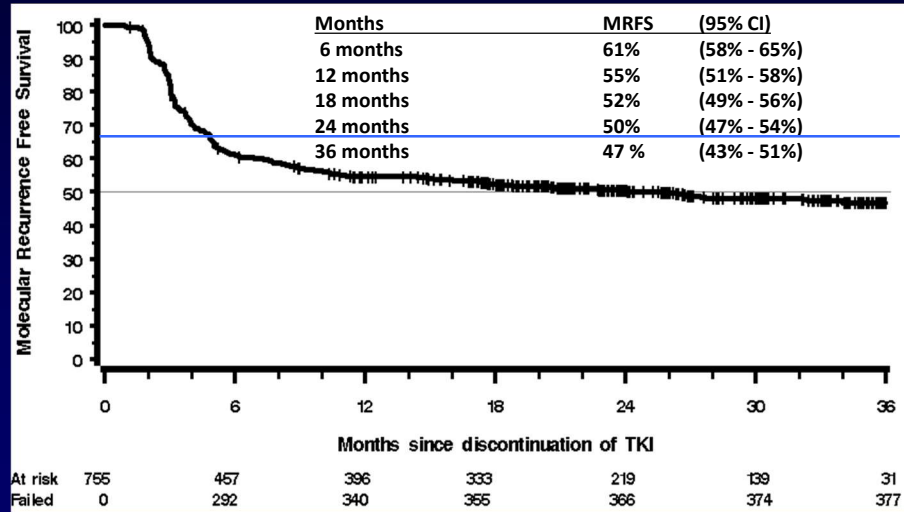
Huang X et al. Cancer. 2012 June 15; 118(12): 3123–3127.



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## EURO-SKI Study

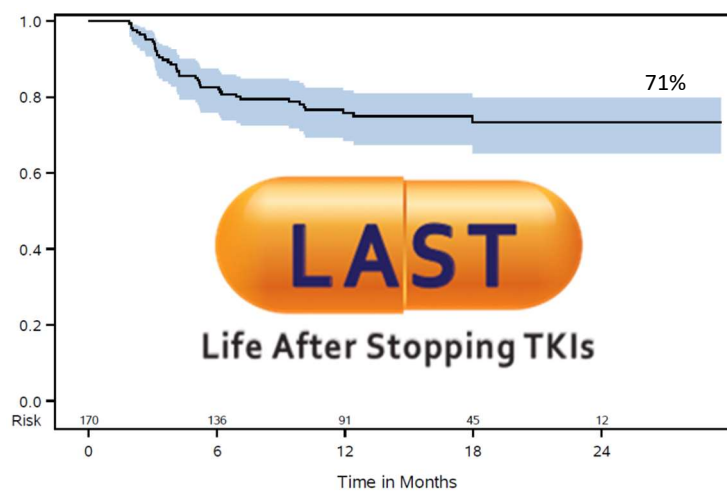
### Molecular recurrence-free survival (n=755)



EURO-SKI presented by FX Mahon at ASH 2016

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## Molecular Recurrence Free Survival



Molecular recurrence free survival: 71% (based on study criteria)

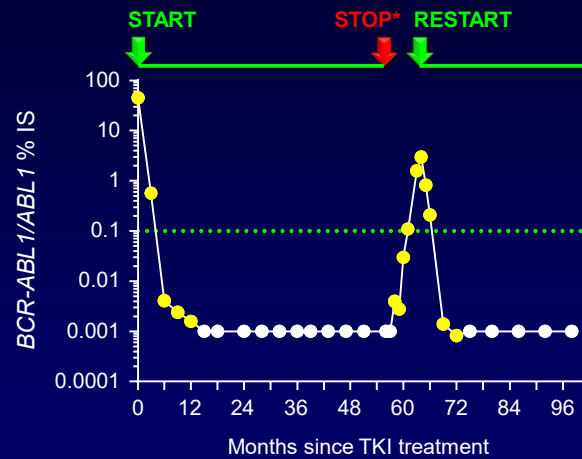
MEDICAL  
COLLEGE  
OF WISCONSIN

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## TKI discontinuation is safe

Female patient  
42 yo at diagnosis  
CP-CML  
Low Sokal score  
No ACA, b3a2  
Imatinib first line

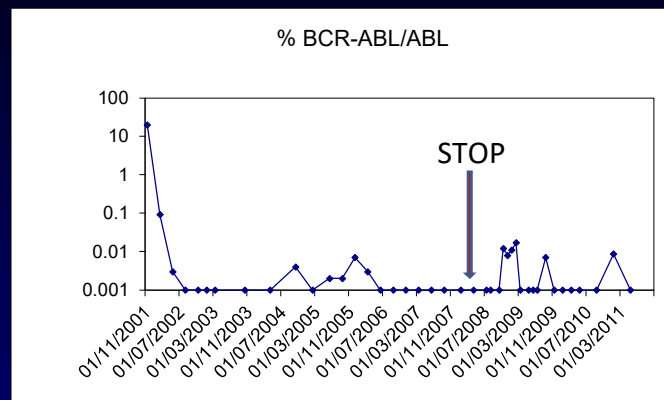


● Detectable BCR-ABL ● Undetectable BCR-ABL  $\geq 32000$  copies of ABL

D. Rea personal data  
\*Patient enrolled in the STIM2 trial

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## Fluctuation of BCR-ABL detection after discontinuation



Among the 39 pts without confirmed molecular relapse,  
5 exhibited a fluctuation in BCR-ABL transcript detection

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## SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF “STOPPING” TRIALS

- ~ 50% success rate independent of TKI
- Low, but real, rate of late relapse
- Virtually all relapses can be treated to level of original response
- “Withdrawal syndrome” in > 20% of patients
- If at first you don’t succeed, you usually don’t succeed later
- Prognostic factors
  - Depth of response
  - Duration of treatment

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## HOW MANY PATIENTS WOULD BENEFIT FROM STOPPING?

If MMR is sufficient

CI of MMR at 5 years with imatinib is ~ 66%

If MR4.5 is necessary

CI of MR4.5 is ~ 30-40%

Assume ~ 60% of patients relapse....

Therefore a **maximum** of ~ 15% of imatinib patients will discontinue successfully, **perhaps** 5-10% more with dasatinb or nilotinib treatment

And, they will have to have received TKIs for a number of years before stopping

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## Necessary Ingredients to Safely Allow TKI Discontinuation

- Attempt to discontinue only in patients with **deep (at least MR4)** and **long-lasting ( $\geq$  2 years)** molecular responses
- Strictly monitor and rapidly resume treatment if MMR is lost
- PCR performed in a laboratory able to score deep molecular responses
- **Proper interpretation of results by treating physicians**

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## WILL THERE BE LATE RELAPSES?

- The mechanism of sustained response is not known – immune mediated??
- Occasional late relapses have been seen and are likely under-reported
- Hiroshima/Nagasaki – CML incidence peaked ~ 10 years after the bombings in survivors and continued to rise slowly
- My approach is to continue to monitor long term, ~ every 6 months

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### Q&A SESSION

Living With Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML)

- **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 have asked your question, the operator will transfer you back into the audience line.

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## LLS EDUCATION & SUPPORT RESOURCES

### HOW TO CONTACT US:

To contact an **Information Specialist** about disease, treatment and support information, resources and clinical trials:



**Call: (800) 955-4572**  
Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET



**Chat live online:** [www.LLS.org/InformationSpecialists](http://www.LLS.org/InformationSpecialists)  
Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. ET



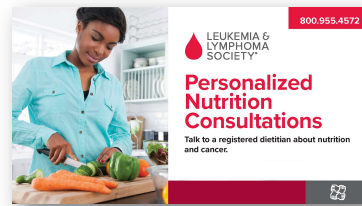
**Email:** [infocenter@LLS.org](mailto:infocenter@LLS.org)  
All email messages are answered within one business day.



### CLINICAL TRIAL SUPPORT CENTER

Work one-on-one with an LLS Clinical Trial Nurse Navigator who will help you find clinical trials and personally assist you throughout the entire clinical-trial process.

[www.LLS.org/Navigation](http://www.LLS.org/Navigation)



### NUTRITION CONSULTATIONS

Our registered dietitian has expertise in oncology nutrition and provides free one-on-one consultations by phone or email.

[www.LLS.org/Consult](http://www.LLS.org/Consult)

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## LLS EDUCATION & SUPPORT RESOURCES



### Online Chats

Online Chats are free, live sessions, **moderated by oncology social workers**. To register for one of the chats below, or for more information, please visit [www.LLS.org/Chat](http://www.LLS.org/Chat)



### Education Videos

View our free education videos on disease, treatment, and survivorship. To view all patient videos, please visit [www.LLS.org/EducationVideos](http://www.LLS.org/EducationVideos)



### Patient Podcast

**The Bloodline with LLS** is here to remind you that after a diagnosis comes hope. To listen to an episode, please visit [www.TheBloodline.org](http://www.TheBloodline.org)

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## LLS EDUCATION & SUPPORT RESOURCES

**LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY**  
877.557.2672

### Help With Finances

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) offers financial assistance\* to help individuals with blood cancer.

The **LLS Patient Aid** Program provides financial assistance to blood cancer patients in active treatment. Eligible patients will receive a \$100 stipend. Visit [www.LLS.org/PatientAid](http://www.LLS.org/PatientAid)

The **Urgent Need** Program, established in partnership with Mopple's Love, helps pediatric and young adult blood cancer patients, or adult blood cancer patients who are enrolled in clinical trials, with acute financial need. The program provides a \$5000 grant to assist with non-medical expenses, including utilities, rent, mortgage, food, lodging, dental care, child care, elder care, and other essential needs. Visit [www.LLS.org/UrgentNeed](http://www.LLS.org/UrgentNeed)

The **Susan Lang Pay-It-Forward Patient Travel Assistance** Program provides blood cancer patients a \$5000 grant to assist with transportation and lodging-related expenses. Visit [www.LLS.org/Travel](http://www.LLS.org/Travel)

The **Co-Pay Assistance** Program offers financial support toward the cost of insurance co-payments and/or insurance premiums for prescription drugs. Visit [www.LLS.org/Copay](http://www.LLS.org/Copay)

\*Funding for LLS's Co-Pay Assistance Program is provided by pharmaceutical companies. Funding for other LLS financial assistance programs is provided by donations from individual donors, corporations, and foundations.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) offers the following financial assistance programs to help individuals with blood cancer: [www.LLS.org/Finances](http://www.LLS.org/Finances)



To order free materials:  
[www.LLS.org/Booklets](http://www.LLS.org/Booklets)

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# THANK YOU

**We have one goal: A world without blood cancers**

**LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY**

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