



## POSTER PRESENTATIONS

### ADULT HEMATOLOGY ABSTRACT CATEGORIES

#### CHRONIC LEUKEMIA

##### PP 01

#### MOLECULAR ASPECTS IN CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKEMIA PATIENTS WITH AUTOIMMUNE CYTOPENIAS: SINGLE CENTER EXPERIENCE

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**Objective:** Autoimmune cytopenia's, particularly autoimmune hemolytic anemia (AIHA) and immune thrombocytopenia (ITP), complicate up to 25% of chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) patients. Their occurrence correlates with a more aggressive disease. AIHA and ITP are more frequently found in patients with unfavorable biological risk factors for CLL. B lymphocytes at CLL are responsible of pathogenic mechanisms, involving aberrant antigen presentation and cytokine production. The aim of this study was evaluation of autoimmune cytopenia's in chronic lymphocytic leukemia patients from Republic of North Macedonia in correlation with genetic structure of pathologic B lymphocyte. **Methodology:** This is a retrospective study of patients with CLL, diagnosed and followed in the period between January 2011 and January 2021. Individual data from 100 treatment naïve CLL patients were analyzed, and mutational status and configuration of IGHV-IGHD-IGHJ rearrangements and genetics were analyzed using reverse transcriptase– polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) and sequencing methodology at the center for bimolecular pharmaceutical analyses, faculty of pharmacy, Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia. **Results:** Our 2531-1379/

evaluation have shown that 10% of CLL patients had AIHA and 4% had ITP. Most of the patients with autoimmune cytopenias had unmutated IGHV genes. The most frequently expressed IGHV subgroup was IGHV1-69 (71%), followed by IGHV3-13 and IGHV4-4 (14%). The genetic results presented unfavorable cytogenetics with 11q deletions and NOTCH1 mutation. **Conclusion:** The results of our study are consistent with published studies with specific molecular signature.

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#### CHRONIC MYELOPROLIFERATIVE DISEASES

##### PP02

#### FOLLOW-UP OF CHRONIC MYELOID LEUKEMIA PATIENTS WHOSE TYROSINE KINASE TREATMENT WAS STOPPED: CASE SERIES

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**Introduction:** Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML) is a myeloproliferative disease characterized by the formation of the BCR ABL1 fusion protein with translocation t(9;22) (Philadelphia chromosome-Ph). With recent studies, it has been understood that the treatment of adult chronic phase CML patients who have achieved a deep molecular response with the use of TKI and can maintain this response for a long time can be safely terminated; It has been observed that it is possible for patients to remain in long-term molecular remission without the use of TKI. Based on these studies, we will try to present the follow-up processes of chronic phase CML patients, who were followed up in our clinic and whose TKI treatment was stopped. **Case reports:** First case; A 69-year-old female patient was diagnosed with Ph positive chronic phase CML in 2008. The imatinib treatment of the patient, who had been using imatinib for about 13 years and was bcr-abl negative for the

last 3 years, was discontinued in December 2021. In the 2nd and 4th months, the requested bcr-abl was negative. Second case; a 42-year-old male patient was diagnosed with Ph-positive chronic phase CML in 2006. The patient, who had been using imatinib for about 16 years and was bcr-abl negative for the last 3 years, was discontinued in April 2022. bcr-abl came back negative. Third case; a 42-year-old female patient was diagnosed with Ph positive (IS: 31,824) chronic phase CML in 2019. He received Nilotinib and Dasatinib treatment after he had an allergic skin reaction using imatinib for about 2 years. The patient had drug intolerance and was bcr-abl negative for about 2 years, and the treatment was stopped. The 1-month follow-up was negative for bcr-abl. Fourth case; Imatinib was started in a 50-year-old female patient with the diagnosis of Ph-positive chronic phase CML in 2012. Due to imatinib intolerance, the treatment of the patient who was using nilotinib and was bcr-abl negative for the last 3 years was discontinued in February 2021. The bcr-abl negativity continues in the follow-ups. Fifth case: A 58-year-old female patient was diagnosed with Ph-positive chronic phase CML in 2013. The imatinib treatment of the patient, who has been using imatinib for about 8 years and has been negative for bcr-abl for the last 3 years, was discontinued in November 2021. The bcr-abl negativity continues in the follow-ups. **Conclusion:** STIM 1 (Stop Imatinib) study is the first multicenter, non-randomised, prospective study on TKI termination. Then, TWISTER, A-STIM, ENEST, STOP2GTKI, EURO SKI studies were carried out. In these studies, TKI treatment was discontinued in patients who used TKI for at least 3 years and had a major molecular response for the last 2 years. Remission was achieved in approximately 50% of the patients who were followed up without medication. In our study; The treatment of patients who had been using TKI for 5 years and had a major molecular response for about 2 years was stopped. The follow-up of the patients (minimum: 1 month, maximum: 15 months) continues, and all of them are in remission.

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#### PP 03

##### TREATMENT-FREE REMISSION IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC MYELOID LEUKEMIA: MANAGEMENT APPROACHES

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**Objective:** The study objective was to analyze the short- and long-term results of treatment discontinuation in patients with chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) and complete molecular response (CMR). **Methodology:** This prospective study enrolled 22 patients (pts) with chronic phase of CML, managed at the Oncologic Institute from Moldova between 2017–2022. The age range was 29–73 years. The male/female ratio was 1:1.2. The real-time quantitative PCR revealed the wide range of BCR-ABL p210 transcript: 21.84–100% IS. In 7 (31.8%) pts the rate of BCR-ABL p210-positive cells was less than 50%.

CMR was achieved in 15 (68.2%) pts after imatinib therapy and in 7 (31.8%) pts after the 2nd generation of TKIs. **Results:** The therapy with TKIs was stopped due to the different reasons in all patients after the CMR was obtained. Two (9.1%) pts stopped the TKIs treatment due to the pregnancy. The molecular relapse occurred in 6 (27.3%) pts, including one pregnant female. All relapsed pts had the initial BCR-ABL p210 transcript expression > 50%. The CMR span ranged between 2.5–26 months in relapsed pts. The range of BCR-ABL p210 transcript in the relapsed pts was 0.002–0.56%. These pts achieved the 2nd CMR after restarting TKIs treatment. All pts are alive, with the ECOG score of 0–1. **Conclusion:** TKIs discontinuation may be considered an option in CML patients with CMR, especially in those with the initially low BCR-ABL p210 transcript expression. The 2nd CMR may be obtained after restarting the TKIs treatment in pts with minor molecular relapse.

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#### COAGULATION DISEASES

##### PP 04

##### PHENOTYPE/ GENOTYPE SCREENING PATTERN OF HEMOPHILIA A AND B IN SAUDI ARAB

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**Objective:** Hemophilia A and B are X-linked recessive bleeding disorder caused by variants in the factor VIII (FVIII) and factor IX (FIX) genes. There is correlation between the type of mutation and clinical severity of these patients. Establishing national screening program for haemophilia patients is highly encouraged by the World Health Organization (WHO) and World Federation of Haemophilia (WFH). Hence we aimed to establish a genotypic data base for the nature of mutations present in Saudi population. **Case report:** This retrospective descriptive study on a cohort of 136 Saudi hemophilia A and B patients. **Methodology:** Molecular studies were performed to identify known and novel causative variants in hemophilia A and B families and correlated with some clinical features. **Results:** There were 129 male and 7 females with age ranged from 2 - 62 years old, 97 (71.3%) hemophilia A (HA) and 39