

observed in 4 recipients and resolved after steroid treatment. Four patients received prophylactic donor lymphocyte infusion (DLI) because of mixed chimerism (RIC conditioning) in the post-transplantation period. After a median follow-up of 40 months (range 1–115 months), 16 patients (73%) are still alive; 12 are in CR and 3 have limited chronic GVHD. One patient died (day +720) of chronic hepatitis. Progression of CLL was diagnosed in 4 patients; 1 was treated effectively with chemotherapy plus rituximab and DLI, and 3 died of resistant disease at 6 months and 2 and 5 years after allo-HSCT. **Conclusions:** Although allo-HSCT is recommended in CLL as a selected clinical option, it seems to be safe and effective in special cases.

## 5.23

### Phase 2 Study of Navitoclax (ABT-263) Safety and Efficacy in Patients with Relapsed or Refractory Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia: Interim Results

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**Background:** Despite available, effective treatments, most patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) will experience multiple relapses and become refractory to standard therapy. Bcl-2 is universally overexpressed in CLL cells; thus, suppression of Bcl-2 is an attractive therapeutic target. Navitoclax, a novel BH3 mimetic, binds with high affinity ( $K_i \leq 1$  nM) and inhibits multiple antiapoptotic Bcl-2 family proteins. Our earlier phase 1 trial established that single-agent navitoclax 250 mg/day achieved predicted pharmacokinetic parameters, was well tolerated, and provided a signal of activity in previously treated patients with relapsed/refractory CLL, justifying phase 2 evaluation at this dose. **Methods:** This multicenter international trial assessed the safety, efficacy, and pharmacokinetics of oral navitoclax in patients with relapsed/refractory CLL, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group status 1 or less, and platelet count  $75,000/\text{mm}^3$  or greater who had received 5 or fewer prior regimens. Patients from the phase 1 study were excluded. After a 7-day lead-in at 100 mg/day, navitoclax was dosed at 250 mg/day on a 21-day cycle until PD or intolerable toxicity. Preliminary efficacy end points in-

cluded tumor response (according to the 1996 criteria of the National Cancer Institute-sponsored Working Group) and progression-free survival (PFS). Disease was assessed at the end of cycles 2 and 4, every 4 cycles through cycle 20, and every 8 subsequent cycles. Adverse events (AEs) were graded by NCI CTCAE v3.0. **Results:** Thirty-one patients, median age 70 years (range 44–82), were enrolled; 7 of 19 with available data were fludarabine-refractory. Median number of prior therapies was 2.5 (range 1–6). So far, 13 patients have cytogenetic data; 9 were high-risk (5 with 11q–, 2 with 17p–, and 2 with both), and 4 had neither deletion. Median time on study is 5.6 months (range 3.8 to > 14.5 months), with 10 patients still receiving drug. Twenty-six patients are evaluable for response (too early for 5 patients): 10 (38%) have partial remission (PR), 14 (54%) have stable disease (SD), and 2 (8%) have progressive disease. Median PFS [95% CI] for 29 patients was 8.7 months [6.0 to not reached]. On serial computed tomography, 12 patients (46%) had greater than 50% nodal regression. Of 27 patients with baseline lymphocytosis, 24 (89%) had more than 50% reduction (median reduction 78.4%). Seventeen patients (55%) had bulky disease (adenopathy > 5 cm); of the 13 evaluable patients, all showed antitumor activity (6 with PR and 7 with SD). pharmacokinetic analysis of trough concentrations suggested consistent exposure across cycles. The most common navitoclax-related AEs (all grades) were diarrhea (57%) and nausea (43%), both of which are most likely attributable to the formulation; Grade 3/4 AEs included thrombocytopenia (27%) and neutropenia (17%). One patient each had a serious, navitoclax-related AE: pyrexia (grade 1/2), tumor lysis syndrome (grade 3), dizziness (grade 1/2). Three patients had AEs leading to discontinuation of therapy, and 9 leading to dose reduction, mainly thrombocytopenia. Nineteen patients discontinued therapy: 6 owing to PD, 6 owing to AEs, 5 because of withdrawal of consent, and 2 for other reasons (lack of response, investigator decision based on low-trending platelets). Two of 4 patients with 17p– achieved PR; patients with 11q– ( $n = 5$ ) seemed to have favorable outcome versus patients with 17p– ( $n = 4$ ) or those with normal cytogenetics ( $n = 4$ ) (PFS 183 days vs not reached,  $p = 0.0376$ ). **Conclusions:** These data confirm that navitoclax has an acceptable safety profile at 250 mg/day and significant antitumor activity in patients with heavily pretreated CLL, including those with 17p– and other high-risk cytogenetic characteristics. Updated results will be presented.

## 5.24

### Pentostatin, Alemtuzumab, and Low-Dose Rituximab Is Effective Therapy for Relapsed/Refractory Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia/Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma

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