

FACT OR FICTION? AML TREATMENT AND SIDE EFFECTS



Program Resource Guide

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS IN AML: FACT OR FICTION?

AML has limited available treatment options. FICTION. The number of treatments for AML has grown considerably in the last several years.

Stem cell transplant is the only option for cure in AML. FICTION. For certain types of AML stem cell transplant is the most appropriate treatment once the disease is in remission if the goal of the patient is of curative intent. Stem cell transplant is not appropriate for every individual.

AML patients require immediate treatment. Neither FACT nor FICTION. This depends on the biology of the disease at diagnosis. Some patients require immediate treatment, some do not.

There is an increased risk of skin cancer with AML. FACT. Some chemotherapies along with preventative antimicrobial medication increase the risk of damage from sun exposure and damage and sunburns. While the risk is low, with any chemotherapy, there is an increased chance of secondary cancers in the future.

Watch the [Fact or Fiction? AML Treatment & Side Effects](#) program [here](#).

CURRENTLY APPROVED TARGETED AML INHIBITORS

Inhibitors are targeted therapies that work by inhibiting the pathway of the genetic mutation that they target. Approved inhibitor therapies include:

- FLT3 Inhibitors
- IDH2 Inhibitors
- BCL-2 Inhibitor
- Hedgehog Inhibitors

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

BCL-2 Gene: Also called B-cell lymphoma 2 protein, helps control whether a cell lives or dies by blocking a type of cell death called apoptosis. The gene for BCL2 is found on chromosome 18, and transfer of the BCL2 gene to a different chromosome is seen in many B-cell leukemias and lymphomas.

Equipoise: The assumption that there is not one preferential therapy present during the design of a randomized controlled trial (RCT). A true state of equipoise exists when there is no evidence that one treatment is better than the other.

FLT3 Mutation: FLT3 stands for Fms-like tyrosine kinase. This gene mutation occurs in approximately 30 percent of AML patients.

Hedgehog (Hh) Signaling Pathway: The pathway regulates many essential processes, including cell growth and differentiation in the developing embryo. The pathway may be activated in later life to stimulate tissue repair or cell proliferation but abnormal activation has been found to lead to some cancers.

IDH (Isocitrate Dehydrogenases) Mutations: Mutations in IDH1 or IDH2 are detected in approximately 20 percent of patients with acute myeloid leukemia (AML).

Molecular Testing: Laboratory testing that identifies certain genes, proteins, or other molecules in a sample of tissue, blood, or other body fluid. In cancer, it may also be used to evaluate treatment or make a prognosis.

Stem Cell Transplant: Procedure (also called a bone marrow transplant) in which healthy blood stem cells are used to replace damaged or diseased bone marrow. This procedure can be used to treat certain types of blood cancers.