FACT OR FICTION? CAUSES & SYMPTOMS

Program Resource Guide

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS IN CLL: FACT OR FICTION?

- CLL is only a disease of the elderly. **FICTION.** CLL is definitely not exclusively a disease of the elderly. The median age of diagnosis is between 65 and 70 years old, but there are many people in midlife who are living with CLL.
- People with CLL should not get a flu shot. **FICTION.** Although the flu shot is less effective in people with CLL, it’s still a good idea because patients have a higher risk of infection.
- There is a diet that can fight CLL. **FICTION.** There are no evidence-based diets to treat your CLL. However you should follow a healthy adult diet.

Watch the Fact or Fiction? Cause and Symptoms program [here](#).

TYPES OF CLL GENETIC TESTS

- **Fluorescence in situ Hybridization** (also known as a FISH test) identifies specific genes or chromosome changes.
- **Molecular testing** identifies gene variations or mutations. Types of molecular tests include:
  - Polymerase chain reaction (PCR)
  - DNA Sequencing
  - Next-Generation Sequencing

*Your healthcare team can help decide which test is most appropriate for you.*

WHAT ARE DOCTORS LOOKING FOR WITH GENETIC TESTING?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chromosomal Changes</th>
<th>Genetic Mutations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deletion 11q</td>
<td>Notch1 Mutation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deletion 13q</td>
<td>SF3B1 Mutation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deletion 17p</td>
<td>TP53 Mutation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trisomy 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RAI STAGING SYSTEM FOR CLL

- Low Risk - Stage 0
- Intermediate Risk - Stages I and II
- High Risk - Stages III and IV

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**13q Deletion:** Associated with a favorable outcome if other abnormalities are not present.

**17p Deletion:** A chromosomal abnormality found in CLL that can impact prognosis and response to treatment. Patients with a 17p deletion lack a portion of the chromosome that suppresses cancer growth.

**IGHV Mutation:** CLL patients with mutated IGHV may have a longer time to treatment and can have different responses and duration of responses specific to chemotherapy.

**Progression-Free Survival:** The period of time during and after treatment, that a patient’s disease does not get worse or cause problems.

**TP53 Mutation:** This mutation may impact disease progression, treatment resistance and outcome for patients with CLL.