



Use this checklist to empower your CLL patients.

Educate your patients specifically about CLL and its progression. Ensure they understand the chronic nature of the disease, common symptoms, and potential complications. Highlight the importance of monitoring and managing side effects throughout their treatment journey.

Provide your patients with educational tools that cater to their learning styles like brochures detailing CLL-specific information, decision-making aids outlining treatment options, and videos explaining complex concepts like mutations and targeted therapies.

Discuss treatment expectations and goals. This includes understanding their personal and clinical goals, especially in relation to specific CLL mutations (e.g., TP53, IGHV). Use this information to personalize treatment plans and to explain how these genetic factors may influence therapy choices and outcomes.

Understand and explain CLL-specific mutations and prognostic factors. Inform patients about the significance of genetic and molecular markers, such as del(17p), TP53 mutations, and IGHV mutation status, in determining their prognosis and treatment approach.

Monitor and manage side effects specific to CLL treatments. Stay vigilant about potential adverse events, such as infusion reactions, cytopenias, infections, and cardiovascular effects. Educate patients on recognizing early signs and symptoms of these side effects and when to seek medical attention.

Implement dose modifications when necessary. Adjust treatment dosages based on patient tolerance, organ function (e.g., renal impairment), and hematologic parameters. Provide clear dose adjustment guidelines to patients and caregivers.

Remind your patients that their relationship with you is ongoing and needs to have open communication. They should feel comfortable asking questions, sharing side effects they are experiencing, and messaging you or your support staff through your portal.

Highlight the value of family, friends, and patient groups. Provide information about local or online leukemia support groups, counseling services, and community organizations. Also, recognize patients who lack support. Explore ways to mitigate isolation (e.g., telehealth visits, virtual support groups).

To do your part to minimize clinical racial disparities and to ensure your patients get access to tomorrow's medicines today, ask if they would be interested in clinical trial participation and share what support resources can be provided to help them participate.

Help your patients rethink their care team. The team is not only their provider but includes advanced practice professionals, nurses, community health workers, nurse navigators, etc.

[Sources: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)]