

CLL GLOBAL HAS PROVIDED OVER 22 MILLION IN RESEARCH FUNDING (2005-2015)

LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD

2015 was an amazing year for CLL Global and the entire CLL community. We started the year with the announcement that the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) named the transformation of treatment for CLL as the cancer Advance of the Year. The announcement comes in large part thanks to four drugs, newly-approved in 2014, which dramatically improved the outlook for patients with CLL. Two new immunotherapy drugs, obinutuzumab and ofatumumab (combined with standard chemotherapy), and two new molecularly targeted drugs, idelalisib and ibrutinib, were approved by the Food and Drug Administration, greatly expanding treatment options for patients, and offering hope for elderly patients, and patients with relapsed or refractory disease.

Patients now have **four new options** for CLL treatment:

2 TARGETED THERAPIES

Block distinct molecular pathways inside cancer cells



ibrutinib

idelalisib

- ▶ For relapsed/treatment-resistant CLL
- ▶ Taken orally
- ▶ Less toxic, more effective than prior therapies
- ▶ Delays disease progression

2 IMMUNOTHERAPIES



Help the immune system fight cancer by flagging cancer cells for destruction

obinutuzumab

ofatumumab

- ▶ For newly diagnosed CLL
- ▶ Highly effective
- ▶ Few serious side effects
- ▶ Delays disease progression

As seen in the 2015 Clinical Cancer Advances report at CancerProgress.NET/CCA

It is thanks to the generous support of all our donors that CLL Global is able to fund cutting edge research, help train the next generation of researchers and clinicians, and reach out to the public through onsite and online education forums. This spring we were fortunate to benefit



Night of Art and Wine featuring art by LeeAnne Domangue

from the generosity of local Houston philanthropists Joy and Michael Doustan. Joy and Michael hosted a “Night of Art and Wine”, a silent art auction benefitting CLL Global. Houston artist LeeAnne Domangue created fourteen original paintings for the event with donations generating more than \$7,200 to support the foundation. Attendees of the event included friends and family of Michael and Joy, MD Anderson Leukemia faculty and fellows, CLL Global board members, and of course our very own Dr. Michael Keating. The event was enjoyed by all who attended.

Towards our mission of supporting cutting-edge research and fostering collaboration among the international scientific community, CLL Global held two Alliance meetings in 2015. These meetings bring together research scientists and clinicians from around the globe to discuss their latest projects and plan future partnerships. The first meeting, held in January in Houston, Texas, was titled “Curing CLL: Who, What, Where, When and How”. Twenty-four of our Alliance members, as well as specially-invited guests, met to review topics ranging from prioritizing immune therapy to checkpoint inhibitors to the metabolic exploitation of CLL.



Dr. Kanti Rai and Dr. Constantine Tam at the September Alliance Meeting

The second Alliance meeting of the year was held in September in Medlow Bath, Australia, just prior to the international workshop on Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (iwCLL) meeting in Sydney, Australia. Building on outcomes from the January meeting, the fall Alliance meeting was titled “Underdeveloped Opportunities in CLL”. With the beautiful Blue Mountains as a backdrop, Alliance members discussed

topics including the importance of investigating stromal cell-immune cell interactions, the role of viruses in CLL, and second cancers in patients diagnosed with CLL. Dr. Kanti Rai from the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research at Long Island Jewish Medical Center kicked off the meeting by providing a history of CLL and highlighting the amazing progress that has been made in understand CLL biology and developing treatment options for CLL patients.

At the October CLL Global Board of Directors meeting members took a moment to honor our founding chairman, Byron “Mack” Rankin, Jr. Mack was instrumental in launching CLL Global and during his tenure the foundation grew into the successful and worthwhile entity that it is today. Though he is no longer with us, his energy and enthusiasm continue to direct and inspire us towards our mission of abolishing CLL as a threat to the life and health of patients.

**Texan to the Core
Believer in the Defeat of Cancer
Survivor to See It Happen
Patron to Make It Possible
Friend to Us All**



Louis Katopodis, Diane Lee, Dr. Martin Raber, Phyllis Cohen, Dr. Michael Keating, Robert Nichols, Dr. Emil Freireich, Sam Pace

Also in October, CLL Global, in conjunction with our production partners at Patient Power, hosted a Town Meeting titled “Living Well with CLL” at MD Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC) in Houston, Texas. Over 100 people attended the meeting in person and more than 270 people participated online. The event was moderated by Patient Power founder Andrew Schorr. Panelists included CLL Global president and CEO Dr. Michael Keating (MDACC), Dr. Zeev Estrov (MDACC), and Dr. Nicole Lamanna (Columbia University Medical Center). Also on the panel were Jamie Lynn Gibbons, physician assistant at MDACC, and Purva Lad, LCSW, a social work counselor at MDACC. Topics covered in the meeting included what it means to “watch and wait”, how best to monitor and treat CLL, and new treatment options for patients including Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cells. The forum ended with a question and answer session, providing patients an opportunity to ask questions of the panel and each other. Planning for the next Town Meeting, to be held at Columbia University Medical Center in New York, NY, in the spring of 2016, is underway.



Dr. Michael Keating, Dr. Nicole Lamanna, and Dr. Zeev Estrov at the “Living Well with CLL” Town Meeting

CLL Global has had an amazing year thanks to the overwhelming support we have received from the entire CLL community, from patients and caregivers to our scientific Alliance members. Exciting clinical trials are currently underway and hold great promise towards adding to the arsenal available to patients to fight this disease. In addition to our commitment to support CLL research, we will continue to advocate on behalf of CLL patients to improve drug affordability and increase patient quality of life. Please consider supporting CLL Global as we march forward towards an exciting new future filled with the promise of a cure for CLL.

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