



Bits and Pieces from the CLL Global Community

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May 2015

Greetings Friends!

As we move from spring into summer, we also move into an exciting time for the CLL family. June brings us two opportunities to learn about the latest in CLL research: The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) meeting May 29 - June 2, 2015, in Chicago, IL, and the European Hematology Association meeting June 11-14, 2015, in Vienna, Austria. Both meetings bring together leading experts in oncology from around the world to discuss new therapies, technologies, treatment modalities, and ground-breaking research. You can personally participate in this exciting experience by registering for the live, online question and answer session with Dr. Nicole Lamanna at the ASCO conference on Sunday, May 31, 2015 ([register here](#)). Check back with us in June when we will summarize the highlights from both meetings.

NEWLY DIAGNOSED

If you have recently been diagnosed with CLL, you probably have questions.

[Information about CLL](#)

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[List of CLL specialists around the world
\(Provided by ACOR\)](#)

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Other Cancers Common in Patients with CLL

An update from Dr. Alessandra Ferrajoli

The last two decades have brought remarkable changes in treatment opportunities for patients with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL). It is very exciting to see many new and active medications being taken from the laboratory to the clinic and combinations of new and older drugs being refined and improved. Thanks to these advances, a growing

FEATURED VIDEOS



[Progress in Understanding CLL Genetics](#)

Dr. Jennifer Brown, director of the CLL Center at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, discusses the genetics of CLL.



[Understanding Common CLL Symptoms](#)

Drs. Alessandra Ferrajoli, Nitin Jain, and Javier Munoz, discuss common symptoms of CLL including night sweats and fatigue.

number of patients will live with their disease for a long time. As a consequence, both patients and their doctors are now facing the task of how to best maintain the health of survivors of CLL. One of the biggest challenges to a long-term survival is the increased occurrence of other cancers in these patients. It has been known for many years that patients with CLL have the tendency of developing malignancies. It has



also been reported that certain type of cancers can behave more aggressively in patients with CLL. It is likely that the influence of CLL on the immune system and, at times, the additional immunosuppression related to treatment facilitate the development and growth of these tumors. Additionally, being exposed to tobacco, alcohol, an excessive amount of sun or chemicals could have a larger impact in patients with CLL compared to the general population. Different types of cancer can be found in patients with CLL. Most cancers occur in similar rates in these patients regardless of whether they have received treatment or not, with the exception of myelodysplastic syndrome and acute leukemia that could occur after treatment with chemotherapy. Experts in the field have noticed a particularly high rate of tumors of the skin in patients with CLL. These cancer tend to recur more often and are more likely to show local aggressiveness in these patients. It is, therefore, very important that preventive measures and appropriate screening tests are carefully followed by patients with CLL. The recommendations are the same as the ones for the general population and include avoiding the use of tobacco and excessive alcohol and using appropriate sun protection measures. In order to best maintain their health, patients with CLL should have regular medical visits and be up-to-date in terms of cancer screening tests (see recommended guidelines for breast, colorectal, prostate and lung cancer screening) and undergo skin examination by a trained provider at least once a year.

It is likely that in the years to come, as more information is collected on other cancers in patients with CLL, more tailored recommendations can be made in regards to cancer screening and health maintenance. Furthermore, studying the nature of these cancers and outlining the differences and similarities with cancers seen in individuals without CLL will provide the needed knowledge to develop the best preventive and treatment strategies to reduce the impact of this complication.

AMAZON SMILE



Donate to CLL Global the next time you shop on Amazon. All you need to do is go to the AmazonSmile webpage (<http://amzn.to/115LVhk>), select CLL Global as the charitable organization you would like to recognize, and for eligible purchases the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to CLL Global.

COMMITTED TO THE CURE

A Decade of Making a Difference

Over the last ten years, the CLL Global Foundation has provided more than \$22 million dollars in support of CLL research, new technologies,

TOWN MEETING



CLL Global, in conjunction with our partners at Patient Power, will be hosting a town meeting

on October 25, 2015, in Houston, TX. CLL Global CEO Dr. Michael Keating and CLL expert Dr. Nicole Lamanna will be available to provide the latest information on CLL treatment options, clinical trials and ways to improve the quality of life for CLL patients. There will also be a question and answer session. Don't live close to Houston? No problem. The forum will include a virtual option for online participation.

DONATE NOW!!



and drug development, with the goal of ultimately curing the disease. Our Alliance members and Scientific Advisory Board are composed of the world's leading experts in the field, including basic scientists and clinicians dedicated to a cure. Over 93% of our funds go directly to support our mission to abolish CLL as a threat to the life and health of patients. We do this not only through our support of CLL science and technology, but also through our commitment to patient education and the facilitation of global collaborations among our members.



• CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKEMIA •

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US!

As we move into this exciting time for CLL research we have you - CLL patients, families and caregivers - motivating us to continue our commitment to improve patient care and quality of life, and, most importantly, to find a cure for CLL. Without your energy, motivation and continued support, the journey would be immeasurably more difficult. Thank you for all that you do to support CLL Global and the entire CLL community worldwide. Together we will achieve our goal.

Sincerely,

CLL Global Research Foundation
