Management of Mantle Cell Lymphoma in the Era of Targeted Therapy

Nakhle Saba, MD

2023 Louisiana Cancer Congress Friday March 31, 2023 New Orleans, LA

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Nakhle Saba, MD has the following financial relationships to disclose:

- **Consultant**: AbbVie
- **Speaker's Bureau**: AbbVie; Janssen; Pharmacyclics
- Advisory Board: AbbVie; ADC Therapeutics, Janssen, Kyowa Kirin, Pharmacyclics

Accumulation of mature B-cells aberrantly expressing CD5



Saba et al. ASH 2013. Blood 2013; 122:82 Smedby et al. Semin Cancer Biol. 2011

Differential Diagnosis

	CD5	CD20	CD23	Other
CLL	+++	Weak	+++	
MCL	+++	+++	Weak	t(11;14) → Cyclin-D1
CLL, Chi MCL, Ma	ronic Lyn antle Cell	nphocytic L Lymphom	G1 → S	

MCL is an aggressive B-cell NHL

	Indolent (10%)	Aggressive (90%)
Leuk phase	Yes	Yes/No
LN	No	Yes
Spleen	Large	Large
SOX11	Neg	Pos
IGHV	Mutated	Mut/un-mut
Ki-67	<10%	< or ≥ 30%

Lack of CD5 predicts for a better OS in MCL



Soleimani... Saba. Leuk Lymphoma 2022

MCL is an aggressive B-cell NHL

Yet incurable

CHOP in the front line setting, pre-Cytarabine and Pre-R era



Dreyling et al. Blood 2005

PFS benefit with ASCT



Dreyling et al. Blood 2005

R improves both **PFS** and **OS**



Adapted from Hoster E, et al. Blood 2008;112(11):3049.

New standard:

R-CHOP followed by ASCT.

What can we add to RCHOP to improve induction?

Era of Cytarabine:

- DHAP/RCHOP: MCL YOUNGER Trial
- Hyper-CVAD: MDACC
- NORDIC: MCL2 trial

The era of Cytarabine: "MCL YOUNGER" trial



Primary endpoints: PFS and OS

Hermine et al. The Lancet, 2016

MCL YOUNGER, Outcomes



Best durable responses are seen with ARA-C

ASCT does not compensate for the inferior response rates observed with R-CHOP alone

Vore from randomication

The new standard in young and fit:

HiDAC containing induction regimen followed by ASCT

Hermine et al. The Lancet, 2016

What should we add to Cytarabine and Rituximab to improve outcomes, add MTX?

HyperCVAD/MTX-Ara-C?





Romaguera et al. JCO 2005

What should we add to Cytarabine and Rituximab to improve outcomes?

HyperCVAD?

Table 1. Selective prospective studies of intensive frontline therapies in newly diagnosed MCL

Phase	Induction	Consolidation	N	OR (CR), %	Median response	Median OS	TRM	Reference
II (Single Centre)	R-Hyper-CVAD	_	97	97 (87)	22% 15 years FFS	33% 15 years	8%	Chihara et al ¹
II (Multi Centre)	R-Hyper-CVAD	_	60	83 (72)	61% 5 years PFS	73% 5 years	6.50%	Merli et al ⁶
II (Multi Centre)	R-Hyper-CVAD	_	49	(86 (55)	4.8 years PFS	6.8 years	2%	Bernstein et al ⁷
III (Randomized)	R-CHOP	Dexa BEAM ASCT	455	98 (63)	3.8 years PFS	6.8 years	4%	Hermine et al ⁵
	VS			VS	VS	VS		
	R-CHOP/R-DHAP	ASCT		99 (61)	7.3 years PFS	NR		

Non-reproducible Non-randomized High TRM, especially in >65 MTX is not needed for MCL

The Nordic group: MCL2 trial

R-Hyp- VAD // Ara-C **Maxi-CHOP**

Eskelund et al. bjh 2016

The Nordic group: MCL2 trial, N = 159



Cytarabine is a must, MTX is not needed. Do we need CHOP?

The LyMa trial

Since Cytarabine is a must, can we do RDHAP alone? Does rituximab maintenance improve OS post ASCT?



- Patients who did not achieve ≥PR after DHAP could receive 4 additional courses of R-CHOP
- Primary endpoint: Event-free survival (EFS) at 4 years after randomization

R-CHOP was administered in 20 patients who had an insufficient response after R-DHAP, and 10 of these patients proceeded to transplantation



Le Gouill et al, NEJM 2017

BR Vs. HyperCVAD: S1106 trial

- Phase II, randomized,
- 6xBR or 4xRHyperCVAD, ASCT
- Terminated early due to poor mobilization with HyperCVAD
- N=53 (planned 160)





- Cytarabine is a must, CHOP is needed with it
- MTX is not needed
- BR is very promising

Frontline therapy for older patients

- CHOP-R
- BR
- R-BAC

CHOP-R vs. BR: STiL Trial



Rummel et al. The Lancet 2013

CHOP-R vs. BR: BRIGHT Trial

BRIGHT: Prospective, randomized, phase III, non-inferiority, N=67, CHOP-R/CVP-R vs. BR, <u>WITHOUT</u> maintenance R or ASCT

		CR	CR + part	partial response
Histologic subtype, n/N (%)	BR	R-CHOP/R-CVP	BR	R-CHOP/R-CVP
Indolent NHL	49/178 (28)	43/174 (25)	173/178 (97)	160/174 (92)
Follicular	45/148 (30)	37/149 (25)	147/148 (>99)	140/149 (94)
Marginal zone	5/25 (20)	4/17 (24)	23/25 (92)	12/17 (71)
Lymphoplasmacytic	0/5	1/6 (17)	3/5 (60)	6/6 (100)
MCL	17/34 (50)	9/33 (27)*	32/34 (94)	28/33 (85)*

*R-CHOP, n = 22.

Small trials No maintenance R, no consolidation ASCT Difficult to definitively recommend R-CHOP or BR

Flinn et al. Blood 2014

CHOP-R: R maintenance is effective

Prospective, randomized phase III, N=560, age>60, CR/PR followed by R or INF





Kluin-Nelemans et al. NEJM 2012

R maintenance after BR? StiL NHL7-2008 MAINTAIN trial



Rummel M, et al. ASCO 2016

CHOP-R + R maintenance = BR???



Rummel et al. The Lancet 2013

RBAC500: Phase 2 Study from the Fondazione Italiana Linfomi



Visco et al. The Lancet Hematology 2017 Tisi et al. ASH 2021

Novel Agents

Survival pathways in MCL



Saba & Wiestner. Curr Opin Hematol. 2014

Novel Agents

Single Agent	ORR (%)	CR (%)
Bortezomib	33	8
Temsirolimus	22	2
Lenalidomide	28	8
Ibrutinib	68	21
Venetoclax	75	21

Head-to-head studies between these regimen are lacking. Therefore, direct comparisons cannot be made.

The BCR signaling pathway



Saba & Wiestner. Curr Opin Hematol. 2014

Ibrutinib, Phase 1 in Relapsed/Refractory Lymphomas



Advani et al, JCO 2012

Lymph node-resident cells display higher BCR activity than cells in blood



Saba et al. Blood 2016

Ibrutinib, Phase 2 in R/R MCL

• ORR 68%, CR 21%



Wang et al, NEJM 2013

Ibrutinib, Phase 2 in R/R MCL

• ORR 68%, CR 21%



Wang et al, NEJM 2013

• ORR 32%, CR 8%



Goy et al, Ann Oncol. 2009

Ibrutinib, Phase 2 in R/R MCL

• ORR 68%, CR 21%



Wang et al, NEJM 2013

• ORR 28%, CR 7.5%



Goy et al, JCO 2013

Covalent single agent BTKi activity in R/R MCL

BTKi	Phase	Ν	#PT	Resp. Criteria	ORR (CR)	mPFS (mo)	mOS (mo)
<u>Ibr</u>	2	111	3	Cheson (2007)	68 (21)	13.9	22.5
<u>Acal</u>	2	124	2	Lugano (2014)	81 (48)	22	59
<u>Zanu</u>	2	86	2	Lugano (2014)	84 (78)	33	N/R
Orela	2	106	NR	Lugano (2014)	88 (28)	NR	NR

Head-to-head studies between these regimen are lacking. Therefore, direct comparisons cannot be made.

Wang et al. NEJM 2013; Le Gouill et al. EHA 2022; Song Y, et al. Blood. 2022; Song et al. ASH 2020

Ibrutinib in R/R MCL: 3.5-year follow-up, N=370 pooled from phase II PCYC-1104 and SPARK, phase III RAY: Line of therapy matters.



Rule et al. Hematologica 2019

Strength of BCR signaling is associated with resistance to chemotherapy in MCL



Saba et al. Blood 2016

Ibrutinib in combination with chemotherapy in frontline MCL

Patient status/trial name	Phase	Ν	Treatment	First outcome	ClinicalTrials.gov
Transplant eligible					
TRIANGLE	3	870	R -CHOP/ R -DHAP \rightarrow ASCT	EFS	NCT02858258
			R-CHOP + ibrutinib/R-DHAP → ASCT + ibrutinib maintenance		
			$R-CHOP + ibrutinib/R-DHAP \rightarrow ibrutinib maintenance$		
EA4151	3	689	Rituximab chemotherapy \rightarrow MRD	OS	NCT03267433
			MRD positive: ASCT + rituximab maintenance		
			MRD negative: ASCT + rituximab maintenance vs rituximab maintenance		
Transplant ineligible					
E1411	2	332	Bendamustine-rituximab \rightarrow rituximab maintenance	PFS	NCT01415752
			Bendamustine-rituximab → rituximab-lenalidomide maintenance		
			Bendamustine, rituximab, and bortezomib (Velcade) \rightarrow rituximab maintenance		
			Bendamustine, rituximab, and bortezomib (Velcade) \rightarrow rituximab-lenalidomide maintenance		
▶ SHINE	3	523*	Bendamustine-rituximab \rightarrow rituximab maintenance	PFS	NCT01776840
			Bendamustine-rituximab-ibrutinib → rituximab-ibrutinib maintenance		

SHINE: First-line Ibrutinib + BR Followed by R Maintenance in Older Patients With MCL

Multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase III trial



- Primary endpoint: investigator-assessed PFS (in ITT)
- Key secondary endpoints: ORR, time to next treatment, OS, safety

Wang et al. NEJM 2022

SHINE: Primary Endpoint of Improved PFS was met



- Median follow-up: 84.7 mo (7.1 yr)
- Ibrutinib + BR and R maintenance showed:
 - Significant improvement in median PFS by 2.3-yr for ibrutinib arm vs the placebo arm (6.7 vs 4.4 years)

ORR,%

CR

PR

- 25% reduction in risk of PD or death

Median PFS, Mo	lbrutinib + BR	Placebo + BR	HR (95% CI)
Patients with blastoid/ pleiomorphic histology	25.6	10.3	0.66 (0.32-1.35)
Patients with <i>TP53</i> mutation [†]	28.8	11.0	0.95 (0.50-1.80)
Efficacy Outcome	Ibrutinib (n = 26)	+ BR 1)	Placebo + BR (n = 262)

89.7

65.5

24.1

Wang et al. NEJM 2022

85.5

57.6

30.9

SHINE: TEAEs of Clinical Interest

TEAEs of Interest With	Ibrutinib + I	3R (n = 259)	Placebo + BR (n = 260)		
BTK Inhibitors, %	Any Grade	Grade 3/4	Any Grade	Grade 3/4	
Any bleeding	42.9	3.5	21.5	1.5	
Major bleeding	5.8		4.2		
Atrial fibrillation	13.9	3.9	6.5	0.8	
Hypertension	13.5	8.5	11.2	5.8	
Arthralgia	17.4	1.2	16.9	0	

• TEAEs of interest with BTK inhibitors typically not treatment limiting

• Other events similar with ibrutinib vs placebo: SPMs, 21% vs 19%; MDS/AML, 2 vs 3 patients

TRIANGLE: Study Design



- R maintenance was added following national guidelines in all 3 trial arms
- Rituximab maintenance (without or with Ibrutinib) was started in 168 (58 %)/165 (57 %)/158 (54 %) of A/A+I/I randomized patients.

- MCL patients
- previously untreated
- stage II-IV
- younger than 66 years
- suitable for HA and ASCT
- ECOG 0-2
- Primary outcome: FFS
- Secondary outcomes:
- Response rates
- PFS, RD
- OS
- Safety

Induction Response and Toxicity

Grade 3-5 AEs (induction period)



	<u>Ibrutinib +/- AutoSCT</u> (n=559)	<u>AutoSCT</u> (n=272)	<u>P-Value</u>
ORR	98%	94%	p=0.0025
CR	45%	36%	p=0.0203

The inclusion of Ibrutinib was associated with a modest increase in toxicity during induction, but was associated with a significant improvement in ORR and CR

Dreyling et al. ASH 2022



	<u>Ibrutinib + AutoSCT</u> (n=292)	<u>AutoSCT</u> (n=288)	<u>P-Value</u>
3y FFS	88%	72%	HR 0.52 <i>,</i> p=0.0008
3y OS	91%	86%	-

	<u>AutoSCT</u> (n=288)	<u>lbrutinib</u> (n=290)	<u>P-Value</u>
3y FFS	72%	86%	HR 1.77, p=0.9979
3y OS	86%	92%	-

AutoSCT failed to show superiority over lbr

- AutoSCT+Ibr is superior to AutoSCT
- Statistical monitoring for the FFS comparison of Auto-SCT+lbr vs. lbr is still ongoing

Looking Forward: Exciting Agents in Relapsed and Refractory MCL

Pirtobrutinib in R/R B-cell malignancies (BRUIN): a Phase 1/2 study



- ➢ N=90, all BTKi exposed
- Median on treatment time: 12 months
- > ORR 58% (CR 20%)

Low rates of Grade ≥3 TEAEs:

- ➤ HTN (3%), hemorrhage (2%), a-fib/flutter (1%)
- Discontinuation due to a TRAE: 2%

Wang et al. ASH 2022 Mato et al. Lancet 2021

ZUMA-2 Phase 2 Brexu-Cel in R/R MCL: Study Design

Key Eligibility Criteria

- ≥18 years of age
- Histologically confirmed MCL that was relapsed/refractory to 1-5 prior regimens
- Received prior anthracycline-containing or bendamustine-containing chemotherapy, an anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody, and BTKi therapy

Enrollment/Leukapheresis **Optional Bridging Therapy** Dex 20-40 mg PO or IV daily for 1-4 days, or ibrutinib 560 mg PO daily, or acalabrutinib 100 mg PO twice daily **Conditioning Chemotherapy** Primary endpoint: ORR as Flu 30 mg/m² IV and Cy 500 mg/m² assessed by IRC IV on days -5, -4, -3 Secondary endpoints: DOR, CAR T-Cell Dose PFS, OS, AE incidence, blood CAR T-cell levels, and serum 2×10⁶ KTE-X19 cells/kg on day 0 cytokine levels First Tumor Assessment on Day 28

Patient Character	N=68	
Median age, years (range)		65 (38-79)
Intermediate or high risk according to Simplified MIPI, n (%)		38 (56)
Blastoid or pleomorphic morphologic characteristics of MCL, n (%)		21 (31)
Median no. of previous therapies		3 (1-5)
Previous BTKi therapy, n (%)	Ibrutinib	58 (85)
	Acalabrutinib	16 (24)
	Both	6 (9)
Relapsed or refractory disease, n (%)	Relapse after ASCT	29 (43)
	Refractory to most recent prior therapy	27 (40)
	Relapse after most recent prior therapy	12 (18)
Disease that relapsed or was refractory to BTKi, n (%)	Refractory to BTKi therapy	42 (62)
	Relapse during BTKi therapy	18 (26)
	Relapse after BTKi therapy	5 (7)
	Could not take BTKi because of AEs	3 (4)

ZUMA-2 Phase 2 Brexu-Cel in R/R MCL: Efficacy

All Treated Since Pre	N=68	
ORR, n (%)	62 (91)	
	CR	46 (68)
$P_{aatroopopoo} = n (0/)$	PR	16 (24)
bestresponse, n (%)	SD	3 (4)
	PD	3 (4)



Wang M, et al. ASH 2019; Wang M, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2022

Glofitamab Monotherapy Induces High Complete Response Rates in Patients with Heavily Pretreated R/R MCL

Phillips et al., ASH. 2022

Study schema

Glofitamab IV administration

• Fixed-duration treatment: maximum 2 cycles

CRS mutation

- Obinutuzumab pretreatment
- (1 x 1000mg or 1 x 2000mg)
- C1 step-up dosing
- Monitoring after first dose (2.5mg)

Population characteristics

- Age ≥18 years
- ≥1 prior systemic therapy
- ECOG PS ≤1





High response rates with glofitamab monotherapy in patients with R/R MCL



All Patients



Patients with prior BTKi

Phillips et al., ASH. 2022

Glofitamab monotherapy produces a high CR rate and durable remissions in heavily pretreated MCL

Figure. Duration of response and time on study by glofitamab dosing cohort



CT, computed tomography; Gpt, obinutuzumab pretreatment; SUD, step-up dose.

Phillips et al., ASH. 2022



Thank you