



## Focus on Advancing Treatment for Acute Myeloid Leukemia

Bruno Medeiros, MD, and Farhad Ravandi-Kashini, MD

**Overview:** Bruno Medeiros, MD, and Farhad Ravandi-Kashini, MD, discuss recent advances in the treatment of acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and how new approvals have changed the paradigm for how AML is treated. A central topic in this program is how a better understanding of the molecular genetics of AML has led to new treatments. Dr. Medeiros and Dr. Ravandi-Kashini also discuss the pathology and genetics that support the use of new targeted therapies, and the implications of findings from recent clinical trials.

### Content Areas

- Daunorubicin-cytarabine
- Targeted treatment
- FLT3 Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors
- Isocitrate Dehydrogenase Mutations
- Apoptosis
- CD33 monoclonal antibodies
- Bispecific antibodies

### Table of Contents

Abbreviation.....	3
Focus on Advancing Treatment for Acute.....	4
Myeloid Leukemia	
Genetic and Molecular Changes in AML.....	4
Daunorubicin-Cytarabine Liposome.....	4
(CPX-351)	
FLT3 Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors.....	5
Isocitrate Dehydrogenase Mutations as.....	6
Treatment Targets	
Targeting Apoptosis.....	7
Target Antigens and Novel Antibodies .....	8
in AML	
Conclusion.....	9
Figures.....	10

### Target Audience

This activity is intended for hematologist-oncologists, oncology nurse practitioners, nurses, physician assistants, and other healthcare providers who treat patients with AML.

### Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants should be better able to:

- Apply NCCN practice guidelines, expert recommendations, and/or the outcomes of clinical trials to AML treatment protocols
- Discuss the clinical significance of FLT3, IDH, CD33, and BCL-2
- Associate specific tumor genetic and molecular profiles with treatment mechanisms of action
- Recognize adverse events and potential drug-drug interactions associated with newly-approved treatments

**This activity is supported by an independent educational grant from Pfizer, Inc.**

Bruno Medeiros, MD  
 Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine  
 Department of Medicine, Hematology  
 Stanford Comprehensive Cancer Network  
 Stanford University  
 Stanford, California

Farhad Ravandi-Kashani, MD  
 MD Anderson Center/University of Texas  
 Department of Leukemia  
 Division of Cancer Medicine  
 Houston, Texas



### Accreditation and Certification

The Annenberg Center for Health Sciences at Eisenhower is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Annenberg Center for Health Sciences at Eisenhower designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

A maximum of 1.0 contact hours may be earned for successful completion of this activity.

### Disclosure Statement

It is the policy of the Annenberg Center for Health Sciences to ensure fair balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all programming. All faculty and planners participating in sponsored programs are expected to identify and reference off-label product use and disclose any relationship with those supporting the activity or any others with products or services available within the scope of the topic being discussed in the educational presentation.

The Annenberg Center for Health Sciences assesses conflict of interest with its instructors, planners, managers, and other individuals who are in a position to control the content of CE/CME activities. All relevant conflicts of interest that are identified are thoroughly vetted by the Annenberg Center for fair balance, scientific objectivity of studies utilized in this activity, and patient care recommendations. The Annenberg Center is committed to providing its learners with high-quality CE/CME activities and related materials that promote improvements or quality in health care and not a specific proprietary business interest of a commercial interest.

In accordance with the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education Standards, parallel documents from other accrediting bodies, and Annenberg Center for Health Sciences policy, the following disclosures have been made:

Bruno Medeiros, MD  
Research Support: Celgene, Jazz, Novartis, Astellas  
Consultant: Celgene, Jazz, Novartis, Astellas

Farhad Ravandi-Kashani, MD  
Research Support: Amgen, BMS, Xencor, Orsenix, MacroGenics, AbbVie  
Consultant: Celgene, Amgen, Xencor, Orsenix, Astellas, Agios

The faculty for this activity have disclosed that there will be discussion about the use of products for non-FDA approved indications.

The following have no significant relationship to disclose:

*Additional content planners*  
Chris Fischer (medical writer)  
Eugene Cullen, MD (peer reviewer)

*Annenberg Center for Health Sciences*  
Staff at the Annenberg Center for Health Sciences at Eisenhower have no relevant commercial relationships to disclose.

The ideas and opinions presented in this educational activity are those of the faculty and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Annenberg Center and/or its agents. As in all educational activities, we encourage practitioners to use their own judgment in treating and addressing the needs of each individual patient, taking into account that patient's unique clinical situation. The Annenberg Center disclaims all liability and



cannot be held responsible for any problems that may arise from participating in this activity or following treatment recommendations presented.

This activity is an online enduring material. Successful completion is achieved by reading and/or viewing the materials, reflecting on its implications in your practice, and completing the assessment component.

The estimated time to complete the activity is 1.0 hours.

This activity was released on April 20, 2019 and is eligible for credit through April 29, 2020.

This piece is based on a discussion among the faculty members and was written by a writer

from the Annenberg Center. Faculty have final editorial control for the piece.

#### **Our Policy on Privacy**

Annenberg Center for Health Sciences respects your privacy. We don't share information you give us, or have the need to share this information in the normal course of providing the services and information you may request. If there should be a need or request to share this information, we will do so only with your explicit permission. See Privacy Statement and other information at <http://www.annenberg.net/privacy-policy/>

#### **Contact Information**

For help or questions about this activity please contact Continuing Education: [ce@annenberg.net](mailto:ce@annenberg.net)

---

#### **Abbreviations**

AML, acute myeloid leukemia  
BiTE, bispecific T-cell-engaging  
CI, confidence interval  
CRc, composite complete remission (includes CR, CRi, and CRp)  
CRh, CR with partial hematologic recovery  
CRi, CR with incomplete hematologic recovery  
CRp, CR with incomplete platelet counts  
DART, dual-affinity retargeting  
DFS, disease-free survival

EFS, event-free survival  
ELN, European LeukemiaNet  
GO, gemtuzumab ozogamicin  
HR, hazard ratio  
HSCT, hematopoietic stem cell transplant  
MDS, myelodysplastic syndrome  
OR, odds ratio  
OS, overall survival  
RFS, relapse-free survival  
R/R AML, relapsed or refractory AML





# FOCUS ON ADVANCING TREATMENT FOR ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA

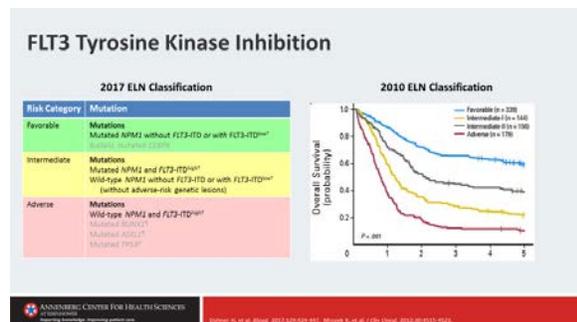
(n=24/49) had a median OS of 14.7 months, and this was similar to the OS in those who were treated as outpatients (n=25/49, 25.4 months). While median OS had not been reached in patients who received CPX-351 as inpatients during the second consolidation cycle, median survival was 26.3 months in outpatients. Based on these studies, CPX-351 has become the new standard of care in patients with therapy-related AML and AML with myelodysplasia-related changes. To date, it remains unclear whether CPX-351 will provide the same level of benefit in patients under 60 years of age.

### FLT3 Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors

The FMS-like tyrosine kinase 3 (*FLT3*) receptor has a role in the survival, proliferation, and differentiation of hematopoietic stem cells, and is overexpressed in >70% of AML cases.<sup>8-10</sup> Mutations in *FLT3* constitutively activate the *FLT3* pathway, driving the survival and proliferation of leukemic cells. The most common mutation is an internal tandem duplication (*FLT3*-ITD) of the juxtamembrane domain; up to 30% of patients with AML have the *FLT3*-ITD mutation, and *FLT3*-ITD is associated with shorter remissions and overall survival.<sup>1,2,10,11</sup> Mutations to the tyrosine kinase domain also occur (*FLT3*-TKD), but are less common (10% or less of cases) and are not as clearly linked to prognosis.<sup>1,10</sup> The prognostic effect of mutations to the *FLT3* gene is modified by other, nonlinked loci, the presence of a wild-type *FLT3* allele, and the ratio of *FLT3*-ITD to *FLT3* wild-type expression (see **Figure 2**).

Small-molecule tyrosine kinase inhibitors that bind *FLT3* and competitively inhibit protein phosphorylation have been identified.<sup>10</sup> These inhibitors differ in their specificity for *FLT3* vs other tyrosine kinases (eg, c-Kit and VEGF) and mechanisms of action. Midostaurin and gilteritinib bind to the active conformation of *FLT3* in the gatekeeper domain (type I inhibitors), while sorafenib, ponatinib, and quizartinib bind the inactive conformation near the ATP-binding domain (type II inhibitors). These differing mechanisms are clinically significant since mutations in the gatekeeper or ATP-binding domains affect the effectiveness of the inhibitor, or can lead to resistance. In general, type I inhibitors are effective against ITD and TKD mutants, while type II inhibitors only target *FLT3*-TKD mutants.

Midostaurin is a *FLT3*-protein kinase C inhibitor that had activity as a single agent in *FLT3*-mutant AML.<sup>10</sup> However, the real value of midostaurin was demonstrated in a phase 3 trial of treatment-naïve patients, under 60 years of age, who received conventional daunorubicin-cytarabine induction chemotherapy, with or without midostaurin (50 mg twice daily for days 8-22).<sup>12</sup> Patients went on to receive 4 cycles of cytarabine consolidation treatment and 12 cycles of maintenance therapy with midostaurin or placebo. Those treated with midostaurin had a significant improvement in OS compared to patients who only received placebo (75 months vs 26 months, respectively). This benefit was independent of the type of *FLT3* mutation—OS was similar in patients with *FLT3*-ITD and *FLT3*-TKD mutations. In a post-hoc analysis, *NPM* mutation status may have had an effect, however, with midostaurin having the most pronounced effect on OS and event-free survival (EFS) in patients who had *NPM*-wild-type/*FLT3*-ITD<sup>high</sup> AML.<sup>13</sup> In these patients, midostaurin improved the OS over placebo from 14 to 26 months ( $P=0.025$ ) and EFS from 3 to 8 months ( $P=0.016$ ). Results after 5 years of follow-up also





## FOCUS ON ADVANCING TREATMENT FOR ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA

indicated significant benefits for midostaurin, with improvements in 5-year OS and EFS. The incidence of grade  $\geq 3$  adverse events was similar between the groups.

While midostaurin is a multikinase inhibitor, gilteritinib has activity preferentially against wild-type FLT3, FLT3-ITD, and several FLT3 mutants (FLT3-D835, a common source of resistance, and the gatekeeper F691L mutation).<sup>14</sup> Gilteritinib also has some activity against the Axl kinase, but not c-Kit, which is important for normal hematopoiesis. A phase 1/2 trial showed that 49% of patients with a FLT3 mutation had a CRc to gilteritinib, but only 12% with FLT3<sup>wild-type</sup> responded.<sup>15</sup> Responses were still seen in patients who were treatment naïve (CRc=44%) or who had failed previous FLT3 inhibitor treatment (CRc=31%). Gilteritinib was approved in November 2018 based on an interim analysis of the ADMIRAL trial.<sup>16</sup> Patients (N=138) with relapsed or refractory AML and a FLT3-ITD, FLT3-D835, or FLT3-I836 mutation were treated with 120 mg gilteritinib daily. After a median follow-up of 4.6 months, 21% of patients had a CR or CRh (21%, 95% CI: 14.5, 28.8). For patients relapsed or refractory AML (R/R AML) with a FLT3 mutation, gilteritinib may be an option.

Results for a phase 3 study of quizartinib monotherapy were recently presented, leading to FDA submission of a new drug application.<sup>17</sup> In the QuANUTM study, patients with FLT3-ITD AML that was refractory to treatment, or who had relapsed within 6 months of remission after initial treatment, were randomized to treatment with quizartinib (60 mg/day) or conventional salvage chemotherapy. The CRc was 48% for patients who received quizartinib (compared to 30% for standard chemotherapy), and the overall response rate was 69% (compared to 30% with chemotherapy). Quizartinib met the primary endpoint of improved OS, with quizartinib-treated patients surviving a median of 6.2 months, vs 4.7 months in the

chemotherapy group (HR=0.76,  $P=0.02$ ). The benefit was independent of subsequent transplant, the use of another FLT3 inhibitor, and protocol deviations. Patients who had prior allogeneic HSCT also had a better overall survival with quizartinib, and the benefit was independent of karyotype risk category.

In patients with untreated, FLT3-mutant AML, FLT3 inhibitors are the standard of care given the improvement in outcomes when combined with chemotherapy, or when used as a monotherapy in patients with relapsed and refractory AML. Ongoing clinical trials will clarify whether adding the next generation of more potent and specific FLT3 inhibitors to chemotherapy will lead to better outcomes.

### Isocitrate Dehydrogenase Mutations as Treatment Targets

The isocitrate dehydrogenase 1 and 2 (IDH1 and IDH2) enzymes are components of the citric acid cycle (aka, tricarboxylic acid or Krebs cycle); in addition to its metabolic role,  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate (the product of isocitrate oxidative decarboxylation by IDH1 and IDH2) has a role in cell-cycle regulation and gene expression through its effect on DNA methylation.<sup>18</sup> Mutant forms of IDH enzymes also produce the oncometabolite, (R)-2-hydroxyglutarate, which appears to promote cell proliferation and block differentiation in hematopoietic cells.<sup>18</sup> IDH1 mutations are present in 7-14% of patients with AML, while IDH2 mutations are found in 8%-19%.<sup>19</sup> Mutations in the IDH genes rarely occur together, and are usually found in patients without FLT3 abnormalities.<sup>20</sup> The prognostic value for either IDH mutation is not clear.

Enasidenib was approved in 2017 for patients with an IDH2 mutation, and in July 2018, the IDH1 inhibitor ivosidenib was approved. The approval for enasidenib was based on an open-label, single-arm trial of patients with an IDH2 mutation; most patients had R/R AML (n=159),



## FOCUS ON ADVANCING TREATMENT FOR ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA

but the trial also included treatment-naïve patients (n=24) and patients with MDS (n=14).<sup>21</sup> In this trial, enasidenib led to a response in 37% of patients with relapsed or refractory disease, including 18% who had a CR. The median OS in this group was 9.3 months, with 39% surviving to 1 year after a median follow-up of 7.7 months. The response rates for patients with R140Q and R172K mutations were similar (OR 36% and 42%, respectively), even though mutations at these positions may have disparate prognoses.<sup>22</sup>

Ivosidenib was tested in a phase 1, open-label, dose-escalation trial of patients with an *IDH1* mutation, most of whom had had at least 2 relapses, had relapsed after stem-cell transplant, were refractory after induction or reinduction, or had relapsed within 1 year.<sup>23</sup> The trial was conducted in 2 stages: the dose escalation phase included 78 patients, while the dose expansion phase enrolled 180 patients who were treated with 500 mg ivosidenib once daily on a continuous 28-day cycle. The CR/CRh rate for this study was 30%, with 22% of patients having a CR; CR occurred after a median of 2.7 months (range 0.9-5.6). Patients with a CR/CRh had a median response duration of 11.1 months, with 50.1% surviving to 18 months.

Both IDH inhibitors are associated with significant clinical benefit in patients with R/R AML, and ongoing clinical trials will determine whether there will be an improvement for patients with *IDH1* or *IDH2* mutations when combined with induction chemotherapy and/or hypomethylating agents.

### Targeting Apoptosis

The BCL2 protein inhibits apoptosis (programmed cell death), and overexpression of BCL2 in AML has been associated with poor survival and chemotherapy resistance.<sup>24</sup> Venetoclax inhibits the antiapoptotic activity of BCL2 by disrupting its sequestration of proapoptotic proteins (eg, the BH3-only

proteins, BIM and BAX), leading to p53-independent apoptosis.<sup>25,26</sup> The patients enrolled in the 2 open-label trials leading to the approval of venetoclax had newly-diagnosed AML (ie, were treatment naïve), were generally older (median age >74 years old), and were not otherwise eligible for intensive chemotherapy.<sup>27,28</sup> In the first study, patients (N=145) received decitabine or azacitidine with venetoclax 400 mg or 800 mg after a 3-day ramp-up phase (5 patients also received venetoclax 1200 mg). In the overall study population, 66% of patients achieved a CR/CRi with a median duration of 11.3 months after 15.1 months of follow-up. Median OS was 17.5 months, and no cases of tumor lysis syndrome were observed. Patients in the second study (N=61) reached a target dose of 600 mg after a 5-day ramp-up phase, and were also treated with cytarabine. The CR/CRi rate was (62%), and median duration of response was 13.2 months. OS was 11.4 months, with 45% of patients surviving 12 months, and was highly correlated with response: all patients who had a CR survived at least 12 months, compared to 49% for patients with a CRi and 5% for patients without a response. The authors also compared responses among several patient subsets. In general, responses were better in patients with intermediate genotypic features or without a history of hypomethylating treatment for an antecedent hematologic disorder, compared to patients with adverse genotypic features or with prior hypomethylating agent treatment. Patients in the intermediate risk category (n=37) had a response rate of 76%, compared to those in the adverse risk category (47%, n=19), and patients who had been treated with a hypomethylating agent had a CR/CRi of 53% (n=17) vs 66% (n=44) in those who had not; this was similar to the response rate in the 27 patients who had secondary AML (CR/CRi=52%). These findings are being confirmed in 2 ongoing, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trials of treatment-naïve patients who will receive venetoclax in



## FOCUS ON ADVANCING TREATMENT FOR ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA

combination with azacitidine (NCT02993523) or low-dose cytarabine (NCT03069352).

For older patients who are unable to undergo induction chemotherapy, the combination of venetoclax plus a hypomethylating agent or low-dose cytarabine provides significant clinical benefit. These combinations are being tested and will clarify whether they should be the standard of care for previously untreated patients with AML who cannot tolerate induction chemotherapy.

### Target Antigens and Novel Antibodies in AML

Tumor-associated antigens are one mechanism for targeting treatment to tumor cells. CD33 is a cell-surface receptor expressed primarily in the myeloid lineage, and, because of its nearly ubiquitous presence in patient AML samples, has become a target for antibody-mediated treatments.<sup>29</sup> One means of antibody-directed treatment is by using a monoclonal antibody to deliver a cytotoxic agent to tumor cells. Gemtuzumab ozogamicin (GO) is one example where this mechanism has been successfully applied. On binding to a tumor cell via the CD33 receptor, GO is internalized into the lysosome where calicheamicin is hydrolyzed and released into the cell.<sup>30</sup> GO was initially approved in 2000 for patients with CD33<sup>+</sup> AML who were not eligible for chemotherapy, but was withdrawn in 2010 when a confirmatory trial did not demonstrate an improvement in overall survival and raised the concern of treatment-related early mortality.<sup>30,31</sup>

The phase 3 ALFA-0701 was initiated after the withdrawal of GO to reevaluate its potential benefits.<sup>32</sup> Patients in this trial (N=278) were 50-70 years of age with de novo, treatment-naïve AML, and were randomized to standard treatment with daunorubicin/cytarabine, with or without GO 3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> on days 1, 4, and 7 during induction, and on day 1 during consolidation therapy. EFS was the primary endpoint.

Treatment-related mortality was similar between the GO and control groups (n=6 without GO, vs 9 in the GO group,  $P=0.41$ ), as was the CR/CRi (74%-81%,  $P=0.25$ ). GO, however, had a significant benefit on both EFS and relapse-free survival (RFS): patients who were treated with GO had an estimated 3-year EFS of 31%, compared to 19% in the control group ( $P<0.05$ ), and a 3-year RFS of 38%, compared to 25% in the control group ( $P<0.05$ ). There was no significant difference in 3-year OS.

Hills et al also conducted a meta-analysis of individual patient data from 5 randomized trials of GO, including data from 3325 patients. Again, this meta-analysis showed that there was no difference in CR/CRi with GO treatment. Patients treated with GO, however, had a lower risk of relapse (OR 0.91, 0.73-0.90;  $P=0.0001$ ) and improved 5-year survival (OR 0.90, 0.82-0.98;  $P=0.01$ ). As part of this study, the authors also compared patients based on their cytogenetic risk.<sup>31</sup> GO led to a 20.7% difference in OS at 6 years in patients with a favorable cytogenetic profile (compared to patients who were only treated with standard therapy,  $P=0.006$ ), with a 6-year survival of 77.5% in patients who received GO (compared to 54.8% in patients in the control group). A smaller, but still significant, difference of 5.7% was seen in patients with an intermediate cytogenetic profile (6-year survival=39.6% in the GO group, 33.9% in the control group;  $P=0.005$ ). Patients with an adverse cytogenetic profile did not benefit from the addition of GO (6-year survival=2.2%). Finally, the authors found that doses of 3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> were associated with a lower risk of early death than 6 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, and that the higher dose did not confer an advantage.

These studies led to the approval of GO for adults with newly-diagnosed, CD33-positive, and for patients with CD33-positive R/R AML in September 2017. The addition of GO to conventional induction chemotherapy improves



survival for AML patients with favorable- and intermediate-risk cytogenetics, but does not improve the outcomes for patients with an adverse-risk karyotype.

An alternative to monoclonal antibodies is a bispecific antibody that recruits an immune effector cell to a tumor cell via a tumor antigen, leading to the cell-mediated killing of the targeted cell. Bispecific T-cell-engaging (BiTE) antibodies are one example of this method, and dual-affinity retargeting (DART) antibodies are another variation, both of which are being tested in AML. One advantage of these methods is that, compared to antibodies that delivery a chemotherapeutic, fewer bispecific antibodies are needed to effect cell death—an important consideration when the target antigen is expressed at low levels. AMG-330 is a bispecific antibody that binds the CD33 tumor cell antigen, and then recruits a T-cell via the CD3 receptor.<sup>32</sup> In a phase 1 dose escalation trial, patients (N=35) with R/R AML were treated with AMG-330, and 4 patients attained a CR/CRi at doses between 120-240 µg/day.<sup>33</sup> XmAB14045 utilizes a similar approach, but targets the CD123 antigen or

interleukin-3 receptor (IL-3R).<sup>34</sup> Expression of IL-3R is highest on B lymphoid and myeloid progenitors, and it is either not present or expressed at low levels on other hematopoietic precursor cells; CD123 expression has also been associated with poor prognosis.<sup>35</sup> As of February 2019, the phase 1 trial of XmAB14045 is on clinical hold and not enrolling additional patients, pending a review of 2 patient deaths possibly related to treatment.<sup>36</sup> Flotetuzumab utilizes the same target but is based on the DART platform rather than the immunoglobulin scaffold of BiTEs. This compound is currently undergoing phase 1 testing.<sup>37</sup>

### Conclusion

The recent approvals have improved overall outcomes for several subsets of AML patients, but we still have the challenge of treating patients who do not have a targetable genotype or karyotype. The risk of resistance and managing patients who develop resistance are other areas that will be of increasing concern as well.



Figure 1

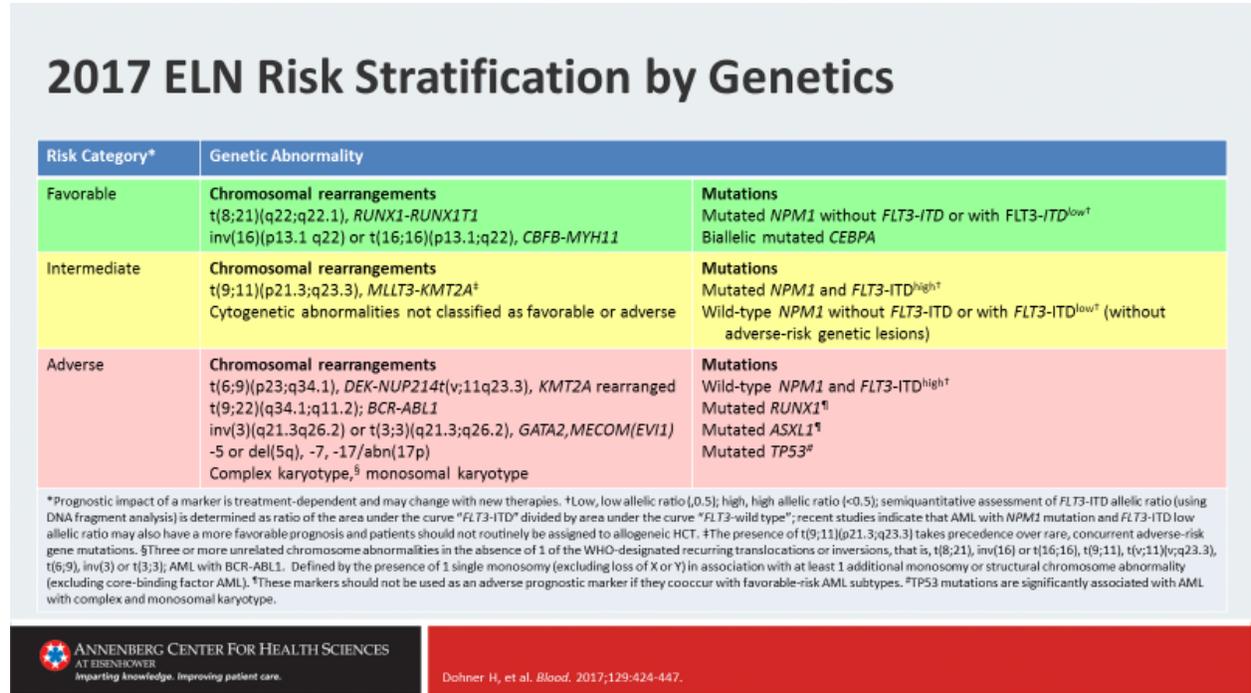
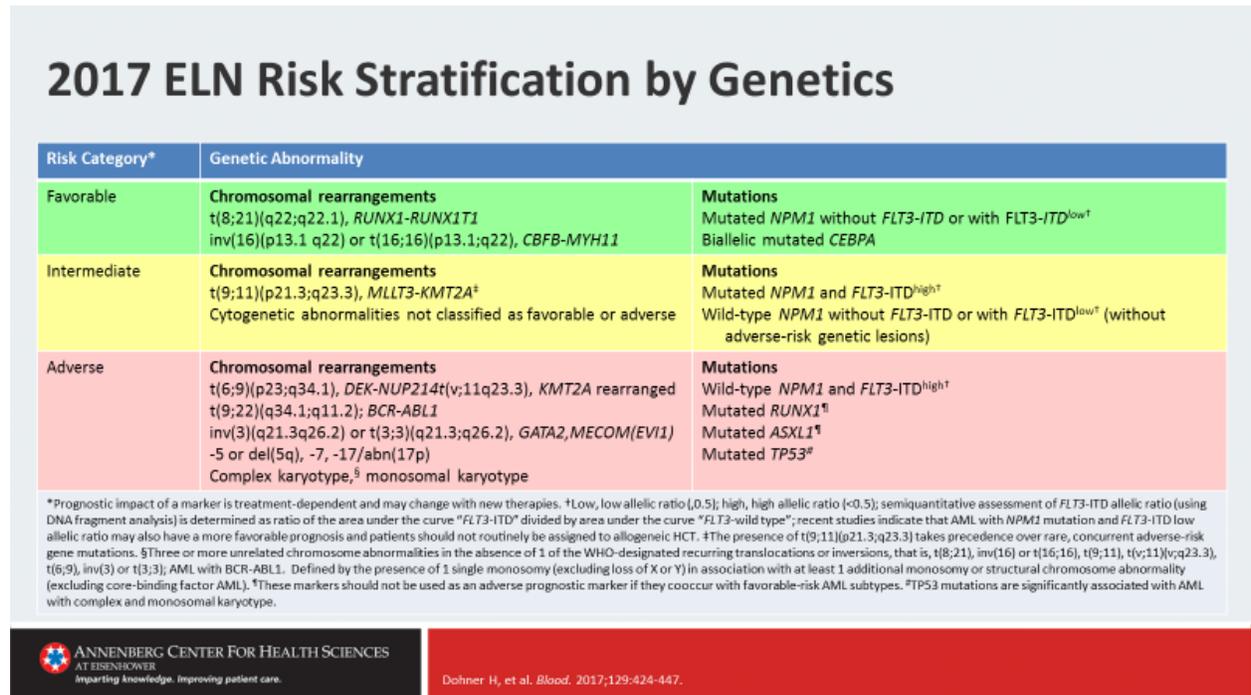


Figure 2





## FOCUS ON ADVANCING TREATMENT FOR ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA

### References

1. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Acute Myeloid Leukemia (version 1.2018). [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/aml.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/aml.pdf). Accessed July 23, 2018.
2. Dohner H, Estey E, Grimwade D, et al. Diagnosis and management of AML in adults: 2017 ELN recommendations from an international expert panel. *Blood*. 2017;129(4):424-447.
3. Lancet JE, Uy GL, Cortes JE, et al. CPX-351 (cytarabine and daunorubicin) liposome for injection versus conventional cytarabine plus daunorubicin in older patients with newly diagnosed secondary acute myeloid leukemia. *J Clin Oncol*. 2018;JCO2017776112.
4. Lim WS, Tardi PG, Dos Santos N, et al. Leukemia-selective uptake and cytotoxicity of CPX-351, a synergistic fixed-ratio cytarabine:daunorubicin formulation, in bone marrow xenografts. *Leuk Res*. 2010;34(9):1214-1223.
5. Tardi P, Johnstone S, Harasym N, et al. In vivo maintenance of synergistic cytarabine:daunorubicin ratios greatly enhances therapeutic efficacy. *Leuk Res*. 2009;33(1):129-139.
6. Feldman EJ, Kolitz JE, Trang JM, et al. Pharmacokinetics of CPX-351; a nano-scale liposomal fixed molar ratio formulation of cytarabine:daunorubicin, in patients with advanced leukemia. *Leuk Res*. 2012;36(10):1283-1289.
7. Kolitz JE, Strickland SA, Cortes JE, Hogge D, Lancet JE, Goldberg SL. Efficacy by consolidation administration site: Subgroup analysis of a phase III study of CPX-351 versus 7+3 in older adults with newly diagnosed, high-risk acute myeloid leukemia (AML). *J Clin Oncol*. 2017;35(15 (Suppl)):7036.
8. Gilliland DG, Griffin JD. The roles of FLT3 in hematopoiesis and leukemia. *Blood*. 2002;100(5):1532-1542.
9. Carow CE, Levenstein M, Kaufmann SH, et al. Expression of the hematopoietic growth factor receptor FLT3 (STK-1/Flk2) in human leukemias. *Blood*. 1996;87(3):1089-1096.
10. Assi R, Ravandi F. FLT3 inhibitors in acute myeloid leukemia: Choosing the best when the optimal does not exist. *Am J Hematol*. 2018;93(4):553-563.
11. Mrozek K, Marcucci G, Nicolet D, et al. Prognostic significance of the European LeukemiaNet standardized system for reporting cytogenetic and molecular alterations in adults with acute myeloid leukemia. *J Clin Oncol*. 2012;30(36):4515-4523.
12. Stone RM, Dohner H, Ehninger G, et al. CALGB 10603 (RATIFY): A randomized phase III study of induction (daunorubicin/cytarabine) and consolidation (high-dose cytarabine) chemotherapy combined with midostaurin or placebo in treatment-naive patients with FLT3 mutated AML. *J Clin Oncol*. 2011;29(suppl):TPS199-TPS199.
13. Döhner K, Thiede C, Larson RA, et al. Prognostic impact of *NPM1/FLT3-ITD* genotypes from randomized patients with acute myeloid leukemia (AML) treated within the International Ratify Study. *Blood*. 2017;130:467-467.
14. Lee LY, Hernandez D, Rajkhowa T, et al. Preclinical studies of gilteritinib, a next-generation FLT3 inhibitor. *Blood*. 2017;129(2):257-260.
15. Perl AE, Altman JK, Cortes J, et al. Selective inhibition of FLT3 by gilteritinib in relapsed or refractory acute myeloid leukaemia: a multicentre, first-in-human, open-label, phase 1-2 study. *Lancet Oncol*. 2017;18(8):1061-1075.
16. FDA approves gilteritinib for relapsed or refractory acute myeloid leukemia (AML) with a FLT3 mutation [press release]. November 28, 2018.



## FOCUS ON ADVANCING TREATMENT FOR ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA

17. Cortes J, Khaled S, Martinelli G. Efficacy and safety of single-agent quizartini, a potent and selective FLT3 inhibitor, in patients with FLT3-internal tandem duplication–mutated relapsed/refractory acute myeloid leukemia (AML) enrolled in the global, phase III, randomized controlled Quantum-R Trial. Paper presented at: American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting; December 4-8, 2018; San Diego.
18. Medeiros BC, Fathi AT, DiNardo CD, Pollyea DA, Chan SM, Swords R. Isocitrate dehydrogenase mutations in myeloid malignancies. *Leukemia*. 2017;31(2):272-281.
19. Döhner H, Weisdorf DJ, Bloomfield CD. Acute Myeloid Leukemia. *N Engl J Med*. 2015;373(12):1136-1152.
20. Santos FP, Jones D, Qiao W, et al. Prognostic value of FLT3 mutations among different cytogenetic subgroups in acute myeloid leukemia. *Cancer*. 2011;117(10):2145-2155.
21. Stein EM, DiNardo C, Altman JK, et al. Safety and efficacy of AG-221, a potent inhibitor of mutant IDH2 that promotes differentiation of myeloid cells in patients with advanced hematologic malignancies: results of a phase 1/2 trial. *Blood*. 2015;126:323-323.
22. Green CL, Evans CM, Zhao L, et al. The prognostic significance of IDH2 mutations in AML depends on the location of the mutation. *Blood*. 2011;118(2):409-412.
23. DiNardo CD, Stein EM, de Botton S, et al. Durable remissions with ivosidenib in *IDH1*-mutated relapsed or refractory AML. *N Engl J Med*. 2018;378(25):2386-2398.
24. Medinger M, Lengerke C, Passweg J. Novel prognostic and therapeutic mutations in acute myeloid leukemia. *Cancer Genomics Proteomics*. 2016;13(5):317-329.
25. Konopleva M, Pollyea DA, Potluri J, et al. Efficacy and biological correlates of response in a phase II study of venetoclax monotherapy in patients with acute myelogenous leukemia. *Cancer Discov*. 2016;6(10):1106-1117.
26. Roberts AW, Huang D. Targeting BCL2 with BH3 mimetics: Basic science and clinical application of venetoclax in chronic lymphocytic leukemia and related B cell malignancies. *Clin Pharmacol Ther*. 2017;101(1):89-98.
27. DiNardo CD, Pratz K, Pullarkat V, et al. Venetoclax combined with decitabine or azacitidine in treatment-naïve, elderly patients with acute myeloid leukemia. *Blood*. 2019;133(1):7-17.
28. Wei A, Strickland SA, Roboz GJ, et al. Safety and efficacy of venetoclax plus low-dose cytarabine in treatment-naïve patients aged ≥65 years with acute myeloid leukemia. *Blood*. 2016;128:102-102.
29. Krupka C, Kufer P, Kischel R, et al. CD33 target validation and sustained depletion of AML blasts in long-term cultures by the bispecific T-cell-engaging antibody AMG 330. *Blood*. 2014;123(3):356-365.
30. Buckley SA, Walter RB. Antigen-specific immunotherapies for acute myeloid leukemia. *Hematology Am Soc Hematol Educ Program*. 2015;2015:584-595.
31. Hills RK, Castaigne S, Appelbaum FR, et al. Addition of gemtuzumab ozogamicin to induction chemotherapy in adult patients with acute myeloid leukaemia: a meta-analysis of individual patient data from randomised controlled trials. *Lancet Oncol*. 2014;15(9):986-996.
32. Castaigne S, Pautas C, Terre C, et al. Effect of gemtuzumab ozogamicin on survival of adult patients with de-novo acute myeloid leukaemia (ALFA-0701): a randomised, open-label, phase 3 study. *Lancet*. 2012;379(9825):1508-1516.
33. Ravandi F, Stein AS, Kantarjian H, Walter RB, Subklewe M. A phase 1 first-in-human study of AMG 330, an anti-CD33 bispecific T-cell engager (BiTE®) antibody construct, in



- relapsed/refractory acute myeloid leukemia (R/R AML). Paper presented at: American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting; December 1-4, 2018; San Diego.
34. Hoseini SS, Cheung NK. Acute myeloid leukemia targets for bispecific antibodies. *Blood Cancer J.* 2017;7(4):e552.
  35. Vergez F, Green AS, Tamburini J, et al. High levels of CD34+CD38low/-CD123+ blasts are predictive of an adverse outcome in acute myeloid leukemia: a Groupe Ouest-Est des Leucemies Aigues et Maladies du Sang (GOELAMS) study. *Haematologica.* 2011;96(12):1792-1798.
  36. Xencor Announces Partial Clinical Hold on Phase 1 Study of XmAb14045 [press release]. February 20, 2019.
  37. Uy GL, Godwin J, Rettig MP, et al. Preliminary results of a phase 1 study of flotetuzumab, a CD123 x CD3 bispecific Dart® protein, in patients with relapsed/refractory acute myeloid leukemia and myelodysplastic syndrome. *Blood.* 2017;130:637-637.