

Smart Patients Get Smart Care™

Planning Ahead: Being Prepared for End of Life

September 10, 2019

10:00 – 11:00 AM PDT / 1:00 – 2:00 PM EDT

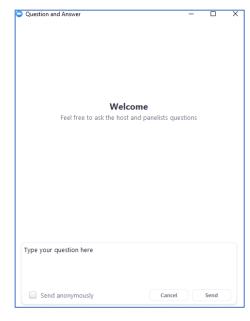
Housekeeping Notes

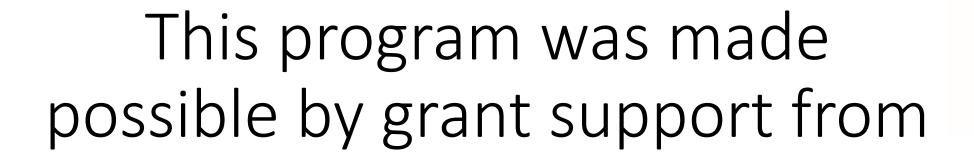
Welcome to the CLL Society Webinar!
The presentation will start momentarily

- Please direct your questions to CLL Society faculty or staff using the Q&A function (located at the bottom of your screen) at any time throughout the presentation
- You will receive a short email survey after the webinar. Your response will help CLL Society plan future webinars.
- The webinar is being recorded and all recorded webinars and the presentation slides will be available on our website via the Support Groups/Education page on cllsociety.org.















Speakers

Moderator: Brian Koffman, MDCM, DCFP, FCFP, DABFP, MSEd

Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, CLL Society





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Learning Objectives



 To be able to complete an advanced care planning process, with attention to issues related to CLL

 To be able to appropriately request a consultation from a palliative care specialist

To know when and how to enroll in a hospice program

What is CLL?



- Most common adult blood cancer
- Accumulation of a specific type of white (infection fighting) blood cell
- Related to genetic mutations one is born with, accumulate with aging, and/or are caused by environmental factors
- Life limiting problems include:
 - Diminished ability to fight infections
 - Inability to make other types of blood cells needed to prevent bleeding or maintain oxygen delivery

Statistics on CLL



In 2019, in the US:

- About 20,720 new cases of CLL
- About 170,626 people with CLL
- About 3,930 deaths from CLL (~2% / year)
- Recently reported 5 year survival 84%

www.Seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/clyl.html

Goals of Health Care



To live as long as possible (survival)

To be able to do what I want to do (function)

• To be comfortable (physically, emotionally, spiritually)

Palliative Care – WHO Definition



Palliative care is an approach that improves the quality of life of patients
and their families facing the problem associated with life-threatening
illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early
identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other
problems, physical, psychosocial and spiritual.

https://www.who.int/cancer/palliative/definition/en/

Palliative Care offers relief from pain and other distressing symptoms

CLL SOCIETY

In CLL, this includes:

- pain
- fatigue
- shortness of breath
- fevers
- night sweats
- insomnia
- medication side effects

Palliative Care affirms life and regards dying as a normal process



In CLL, this includes:

- Honesty about prognosis
- Discussion of all treatment options, including the forgoing treatments
- Assistance with advance care planning

For more information about Palliative Care visit cllsociety.org/living-well-with-cll/planning-ahead

Palliative Care intends neither to hasten or postpone death;



In CLL, this means:

 Palliative care can be combined with CLL-specific medications and treatments

Physician assisted suicide is to be avoided

Palliative Care integrates the psychological and spiritual aspects of patient care



In CLL this includes:

- Empathy
- Mental health for anxiety and depression
- Support groups
- Encouragement of self-care
- Chaplaincy
- Encouragement of ritual or other religious/spiritual activities

Palliative Care offers a support system to help patients live as actively as possible until death



In CLL, this includes:

- Work and retirement planning
- Promotion of recreation and socialization
- Rehabilitation, when necessary

Palliative Care offers a support system to help the family cope during the patients illness and in their own bereavement



In CLL, this includes:

- Identification of key family members
- Inclusion of family members in clinic visits
- Promotion of CLL conferences, reading and support groups for family members
- Mental health services for family members
- Bereavement services

Palliative Care uses a team approach to address the needs of patients and their families, including bereavement counselling, if indicated



In CLL, this means:

- Clinic care including clinicians besides the oncologist
- Coordination and collaboration between oncology and other types of palliative care clinicians and programs



Palliative Care will enhance quality of life, and may also positively influence the course of illness



Palliative Care is applicable early in the course of illness, in conjunction with other therapies that are intended to prolong life

What Can You Do To Address Palliative Care



- Bring family to appointments
- Ask for help with symptoms and feelings
- Ask for a referral to a palliative care team at your health care facility
- Ask for referrals to specific professionals
 - Mental health
 - Chaplaincy
 - Social Work
- Build you own palliative care team

Advance Care Planning

- Starts with discussion of goals and preferences
- May lead to:
 - Power of Attorney for Health Care
 - Health Care Directive
 - Provider Order for Life-Sustaining Treatment
- Can include funeral planning
- Is a gift to family members!

For more information about Advance Directives visit cllsociety.org/living-well-with-cll/planning-ahead



Advance Care Planning in CLL



For times when a patient with CLL can't express preferences

- Allows family and providers to honor patient preferences without conflict
- Should address when treatments for CLL can be stopped or withheld, when
 - CLL refractory to standard treatments
 - CLL treatment causing suffering
 - Other illness is more life-threatening
 - Cognition or function is poor and unrecoverable

End of Life Care with CLL



Now likely dying with CLL not directly related to CLL

• Life threatening CLL complications: anemia, infection

Common EOL goals: remain at home, comfortable, not a burden

• EOL Choices: Hospital based, uncomfortable or experimental therapies vs. hospice care

Hospice

- Is a philosophy, program and insurance benefit
- Team approach to providing palliative care
- Offered in home, nursing facility, residential facilities and hospitals
- Fully covered by all insurers
- Supports both patients and families
- No obligation, no commitment enrollment

For more information about Hospice Care visit cllsociety.org/living-well-with-cll/planning-ahead



Choosing Hospice Care



Often not suggested by doctors in timely manner

Presumes life expectancy < 6 months – but unlimited time allowed

Should be offered/explained as option to ongoing CLL treatment when:

- Other (non-CLL) illness is terminal
- Loss of ability to leave home easily
- Intolerance of CLL treatments
- Only experimental treatments for CLL remain
- Only Medicare service that allows self-referral

Summary

CLL may cause worry about end of life issues



- CLL requires palliative care from the time of diagnosis through bereavement
- Patients (and their families) may need to request or arrange palliative care services

- Advance care planning should be part of every CLL care plan
- Hospice is appropriate when comfort at home is the preferred option



Thank You for Attending!

If you have any additional questions, please contact support@cllsociety.org