



Dear Healthcare Provider,

Thank you for all you have done throughout the challenging COVID-19 pandemic.

As you know, all those with CLL/SLL (chronic lymphocytic leukemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma), a cancer of the B lymphocytes, are moderately to severely immunocompromised¹. All patients with CLL/SLL are much less likely to be protected by vaccinations² and are at much higher risk for poor outcomes including death with COVID-19. This is regardless of their vaccination status, antibody levels, treatment status, and no matter the prevalent circulating SARS-CoV-2 variant at the time³.

That is why we join the CDC⁴ and others in recommending that **all CLL/SLL patients** be prioritized to receive Evusheld for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and receive all COVID-19 booster doses per the most recent CDC guidance that is specified for those who are moderately to severely immunocompromised.

Additionally, if anyone with CLL/SLL test positive for COVID-19, they should be quickly prioritized for therapies such as the effective anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies and/or antivirals (such as Remdesivir or Paxlovid). Again, all CLL/SLL patients should be prioritized for these therapies in their first few days of COVID-19 regardless of how many vaccinations they have received, their treatment status, or their clinical state.

Thank you again for your help in caring for these most vulnerable patients during the pandemic.

Stay strong. We are all in this together.

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References:

- 1: Can Immunocompetence Be Restored in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia? Hematol Oncol Clin N Am - (2021) — <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.hoc.2021.03.010>
- 2: Antibody Response to COVID-19 Vaccination in Adults With Hematologic Malignant Disease Published Online: August 11, 2021. doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2021.4381
- 3: Patients with CLL have similar high risk of death upon the omicron variant of COVID-19 as previously during the pandemic (preprint) <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2022.03.01.22271685v1>
- 4: People with Certain Medical Conditions <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>