Farmacologicamente discutendo

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REVOLUTIONARY ROAD IN CLL

Innovazione rivoluzionaria nella terapia della leucemia linfatica cronica

Disclosures

Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
MSD			Х		Х		
Eisai			Х		Х	Х	
AstraZeneca	Х		Х		Х	Х	
BeiGene					Х		
Janssen	Х		Х		Х		
Novartis			Х		Х		
Lilly			Х		Х		
Incyte			Х		Х		
AB Science			Х				
Sanofi			Х		Х	Х	
Abbvie			Х		Х		

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Relationship of drug concentration at the target to effect (as a percentage of maximal effect)





Roma, 11 aprile 2024 UNAHOTELS Decò 3

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Relationship between drug concentration and drug effects for a hypothetical drug





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The concept of drug dose/duration response relationship

- Ibrutinib and venetoclax, through distinct and complementary modes of action, preferentially target distinct cell compartments and CLL subpopulations to eliminate both dividing and resting CLL cells.
- Ibrutinib mobilizes CLL cells out of lymph nodes and other lymphoid niches and into peripheral blood (PB), where they are more susceptible to venetoclax-induced apoptosis.

Tam CS et al. https://doi.org/10.1182/blood.2021014488



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The concept of drug dose/duration response relationship

- Inhibition of BTK by ibrutinib also enhances the dependence of CLL cells on BCL-2, thereby increasing sensitivity to venetoclax and accelerating apoptosis.
- Combined ibrutinib plus venetoclax demonstrated synergistic antitumor activity in preclinical CLL models, with greater cytotoxicity observed with the combination than with either agent alone.
- Additionally, recent clinical studies with ibrutinib plus venetoclax demonstrated high uMRD rates in both PB and BM in patients with CLL or SLL.

Tam CS et al. https://doi.org/10.1182/blood.2021014488



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The distinct and complementary mechanisms of ibrutinib and venetoclax



Zhang et al. Biomarker Research (2022) 10:17



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Complementary effects of BTK and BCL-2 inhibition on CLL cell mitochondria



Deng J et al. Leukemia (2017) 31, 2075–2084

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Pre-treatment with ibrutinib increases CLL cell sensitivity to venetoclax



Deng J et al. Leukemia (2017) 31, 2075-2084



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BIM expression is increased in CLL cells treated in vivo with BTK inhibition



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In vivo BTK inhibition increases BCL-2 dependence in cells from CLL patients



Rationale for ibrutinib combination with targeted agent venetoclax



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Conclusions

- The complementary effects of BTK inhibitors and venetoclax on CLL mitochondria strongly supports their exploration of these combinations in the clinic.
- The combinations of BTK inhibitors and venetoclax with or without anti-CD20 monoclonal antibodies are highly active and well-tolerated and provide fixed-duration options for patients with CLL and MCL.



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