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POSTER ABSTRACTS

731.AUTOLOGOUS TRANSPLANTATION: CLINICAL AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL

Stem Cell Utilization in the Era of Novel Therapies for Multiple Myeloma

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Introduction:

Stem cell collection is recommended for patients with newly diagnosed multiple myeloma (NDMM) deemed eligible for autologous stem cell transplantation (ASCT). Standard practice at most institutions is to collect an adequate number of stem cells for at least 2 ASCTs, but the benefit of maintaining extra stem cells in storage for future use beyond an initial ASCT warrants re-evaluation in the current era of novel therapies and evolving MM clinical practice. To address this, we reviewed the utilization rates and indications for the use of stored stem cells (SSC) at our institution.

Methods:

We conducted a single-center, retrospective study of 1470 patients with NDMM who collected sufficient stem cells for at least 2 ASCTs and underwent at least one ASCT at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center between January 2007 and December 2022. From this cohort, we assessed rates of stem cell utilization for second, non-tandem (salvage) ASCT and/or stem cell boost over time and determined progression-free survival (PFS) and overall survival (OS) from the time of salvage ASCT using the Cox proportional hazard model.

Results:

The median patient age atinitial ASCT was 61 years (range 24-81), with 58% male, 25% International Staging System stage III, and 42% (542/1283) with at least one high-risk cytogenetic alteration. Granulocyte-colony stimulating factor, either with or without plerixafor, was used for stem cell mobilization in 70% (834/1193) of patients, with the remaining patients undergoing chemotherapy-based mobilization, including high-dose cyclophosphamide (15%) or other multiagent chemotherapy regimens (15%). The median total CD34 ⁺ cell collection yield was 10.3 \times 10 ⁶/kg (interquartile range, IQR, 8-13).

During the entire study period, SSC were used for 14.6% (214/1470) of patients, with 11.2% (n=165) for a salvage ASCT and 2.1% (n=31) for a stem cell boost. Seven patients received both a salvage ASCT and a boost. An additional 25 patients had upfront tandem ASCT (none since 2015) and were excluded from this analysis. Notably, from 2019 to 2022, the annual utilization of salvage ASCT increased compared to pre-2019 levels (median=21, range 11-27 vs. pre-2019 median=7, range 4-12), as did stem cell boosts (median=4, range 1-6 vs. pre-2019 median=1, range 0-3), despite a decline in numbers during the COVID-19 pandemic (Figure 1). The median age at SSC use was 61 years (range 29-78). The median number of prior lines of therapy (LOT) before the use of SSC was 4 (IQR: 2-7) for salvage ASCT and 6 (IQR: 1-6.5) for boosts. The median infused stem cell dose (CD34+ cells/kg) was 4.4×10^6 (range 3.2-5.7) for salvage ASCT and 3.1×10^6 (range 2.2-3.6) for boosts.

The median PFS after salvage ASCT was 16 months (95% confidence interval, CI, 12-21), and the median OS was 37 months (95% CI 29 - 53). On multivariable analyses, receipt of fewer lines of therapy was the sole favorable prognostic factor for PFS and OS. Among patients with \leq 3 prior LOT, the median PFS after salvage ASCT was 32 months (95% CI 22-42), while those with > 3 LOT had a median PFS of 8.0 months (95% CI 5.8-12) (Figure 2). Post-treatment therapy after salvage ASCT or stem

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cell boost most commonly included various MM triplet regimens, chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy, and bispecific T-cell engagers.

Conclusion:

While overall rates of SSC utilization at our institution remain low, rates have increased in recent years, as both salvage ASCT and stem cell boosts provide effective platforms for treating disease and treatment-related refractory cytopenias as a bridge to next therapy for patients with advanced MM. Ultimately, institutional practices for stem cell collection and storage require optimizing the balance of clinical utility with resource allocation and costs of maintaining SSC.

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Figure 1. Number of 2nd ASCT or Booster by year







Figure 1

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