Check for updates





Blood 142 (2023) 6474-6476

The 65th ASH Annual Meeting Abstracts

# **ONLINE PUBLICATION ONLY**

## 637.MYELODYSPLASTIC SYNDROMES - CLINICAL AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL

# Real-World Comparison of Venetoclax-Based Treatment Versus Intensive Chemotherapy As Bridging to Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation in MDS-IB2 Patients

Andrius Zucenka, MD<sup>1,2</sup>, Birutė Davainienė, MD<sup>2</sup>, Vilmantė Vaitekėnaitė, MD<sup>2</sup>, Rūta Čepulytė, MD<sup>2</sup>, Linas Davainis, MD<sup>2</sup>, Guoda Daukėlaitė, MD<sup>2</sup>, Lukas Kevličius, MD<sup>2</sup>, Regina Pileckytė, MD<sup>1,2</sup>, Igoris Trociukas, MD<sup>2</sup>, Laimonas Griškevičius, MD PhD<sup>2,1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Hematology and Oncology Department, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania <sup>2</sup>Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos, Vilnius, Lithuania

### Background

Allogeneic stem cell transplantation (alloSCT) is the cornerstone therapy for myelodysplastic syndromes with increased blasts-2 (MDS-IB2). However, the optimal induction therapy before transplantation remains unclear. Herein, we compared our singlecenter experience of non-intensive Venetoclax (Ven)-based regimens versus standard intensive chemotherapy (IC) as bridging to alloSCT in MDS-IB2 patients.

### Methods

We have performed an observational, retrospective, single-center study. All patients were at least 18 years of age, had newly diagnosed, previously untreated MDS-IB2 based on the 5 <sup>th</sup> edition of the WHO diagnostic criteria, were considered transplanteligible at diagnosis, and had received either Ven-based therapies or IC for induction. All patients provided informed consent for data collection. The Ven-based regimens were either Ven14+Aza7 (Venetoclax 400mg/d on days 1-14 with Azacitidine 75mg/m<sup>2</sup> on days 1-7) or ACTIVE (Venetoclax 600mg/d on days 1-14, Cytarabine 20mg/m<sup>2</sup> on days 1-10 and Actinomycin D 12.5mcg/kg on days 1-3). IC regimens were 7+3 or FLAG-Ida. After 1 or 2 cycles of induction therapy transplant-eligible responders proceeded to alloSCT. We evaluated baseline characteristics, IPSS-M, IPPS-R values, CR, CRh and marrow CR (mCR) rates, time to ANC>1x10<sup>9</sup> and PLT>100x10<sup>9</sup> recovery, CTCAE v5.0 grade 3-5 non-hematological adverse events, overall survival (OS) and day-30 mortality.

### Results

Detailed baseline characteristics are summarized in Table 1. 18 patients (13 female) had received Ven-based therapies and 15 patients (7 female) had undergone IC. The median age was 59 (27-71) in comparison to 56 (24-66) in Ven and IC patients, respectively (p=0.104). The median ECOG value was 1 (0-2) in the Ven group and was significantly higher compared to 0 (0-2) in the IC cohort (p=0.042). The median IPSS-R and IPSS-M values were 6.5 (5.5-10) and 2.19 (0.78-4.73) compared to 7.25 (4.5-10) and 3.15 (0.93-4.52) in Ven and IC patients, respectively (p=0.746, p=0.79). The mCR rate was 82% in Ven patients compared to 87% in the IC group (p=0.741). The CR+CRh rates were 59% and 73% in Ven and IC groups, respectively (p=0.396). Sixty-three percent of Ven patients were allotransplanted compared to 73% in the IC group (p=0.526). Grade 3-5 non-hematological toxicity was lower in the Ven group compared to the IC patients (44% vs 87%, p=0.013). The median times to neutrophil and platelet recovery were 44 (4-165) and 34 (21-94) days compared to 30 (21-110) and 32 (21-36) days in the Ven and IC groups, respectively (p=0.285, p=0.775). The median OS was 15.1 months (3.2-22.1) and 13 months (6.7-40.3) in the Ven and IC groups, respectively (p=0.663).

### Conclusions

We did not observe significant differences between low-intensity Ven-based regimens and IC in terms of responses, overall survival, and number of transplanted patients in this high-risk MDS-IB2 cohort. Non-hematological grade 3-5 toxicity was lower in Ven-treated patients. Our real-life, single-center results should be interpreted with caution.

**Disclosures Zucenka:** Abbvie: Consultancy, Honoraria, Other: Travel Expenses; Astellas: Consultancy, Honoraria; Pfizer: Consultancy; Novartis: Consultancy, Honoraria, Other: Travel Expenses; Jannsen: Consultancy, Honoraria, Other: Travel Expenses; Takeda: Other: Travel expenses. Davainienė: Abbvie: Other: Travel Expenses. Čepulytė: Abbvie: Other: Travel Expenses. Davainis: Abbvie: Other: Travel Expenses. Pileckytė: Abbvie: Consultancy, Honoraria, Other: Travel Expenses. Trociukas:

#### ONLINE PUBLICATION ONLY

*Takeda:* Other: Travel expenses. **Griškevičius:** *Miltenyi Biomedicine:* Membership on an entity's Board of Directors or advisory committees.

#### OffLabel Disclosure: Venetoclax: MDS-IB2

#### Table 1.

	Ven-based (18)	IC (15)
Female, n (%)	13 (72%)	7 (47%)
Male, n (%)	5 (28%)	8 (53%)
Age, median (range)	59 (27-71)	56 (24-66)
ECOG, median (range)	1 (0-2)	0 (0-2)
ECOG 0, n (%)	3 (17%)	9 (60%)
ECOG 1, n (%)	12 (67%)	4 (27%)
ECOG 2, n (%)	3 (17%)	2 (13%)
Risk stratification		
Adverse karyotype, n (%)	8 (44%)	6 (40%)
IPPS-R, median (range)	6.5 (5.5-10)	7.25 (4.5-10)
IPSS-M median (range)	2.19 (0.78-4.73)	3.15 (0.93-4.52)
Treatment		
Ven14+Aza7, n (%)	17 (94%)	
ACTIVE, n (%)	1 (6%)	
7+3, n (%)		9 (60%)
FLAG-Ida, n (%)		6 (40%)
Number of treatment cycles		
1	12 (67%)	13 (87%)
2	5 (27%)	2 (13%)
3	1 (6%)	0
Responses		
CR, n (%)	6 (35%)	7 (47%)
CRh, n (%)	4 (24%)	4 (27%)
mCR, n (%)	14 (82%)	13 (87%)
Refractory, n (%)	3 (18%)	2 (13%)
response not evaluated, n (%)	1	0
Bridged to alloSCT, n (%)	10 (63%)	11 (73%)







Figure 1

https://doi.org/10.1182/blood-2023-178611