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Ibrutinib in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Introduction of Bruton Tyrosine kinase (BTK) inhibitors in the clinical practice has deeply altered the treatment paradigm of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL) patients. In particular, ibrutinib is the first BTK inhibitor used in the treatment of CLL that is able to bind covalently to cysteine residue (C481) in the ATP-binding domain of the BTK kinase leading to inhibition of its enzymatic activity. Inhibition of BTK prevents downstream activation of the BCR pathway affecting cell growth, proliferation, homing and survival of the leukemic B cells.

Although ibrutinib has shown excellent effects on CLL cell component inducing mobilization of lymphocytes from tissue into the blood with the consequent cell death, recently different studies have demonstrated the on-target effects on off-tumor cells related to tumor microenvironment.

This Special Issue aims to summarize the current knowledge and cutting-edge research on BTK inhibitors in CLL.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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