

What's new in chronic myelogenous leukemia and COVID-19?

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In this issue, I would like to highlight two important review articles.

The first article outlines new therapeutic options for chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML), with a special focus on the use of asciminib [1]. Asciminib is a new category of BCR-ABL1 tyrosine kinase inhibitor specifically targeting the myristoyl pocket of ABL tyrosine kinase. This new therapeutic option appears highly promising, especially for patients ineligible for ATP-competitive inhibitor treatment due to previous therapy resistance or intolerance. Moreover, asciminib may diminish long-term cardiovascular toxicity observed in patients treated with next-generation competitive inhibitors [1].

The second review summarizes the published studies concerning the clinical course and prevention of COVID-19 infection in hematological patients [2]. The rapid introduction of vaccines and anti-SARS-CoV-2 agents have improved patient outcomes. The clinical course in most patients is mild. Even so, some groups of patients under specific treatment modalities are at risk of developing severe infection.

It is with great sadness that we announce that Professor Euzebiusz Krykowski passed away in March 2024. His life's achievements are described by Professor Tadeusz Robak and his colleagues in an obituary in this issue [3].

Article information and declarations

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Conflict of interests

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