

# Lymphoblastic predominance of blastic phase in children with chronic myeloid leukaemia treated with imatinib: A report from the I-CML-Ped Study

Deborah Meyran, Arnaud Petit, Joelle Guilhot, Meinolf Suttorp, Petr Sedlacek, Eveline de Bont, Chi Kong Li, Krzysztof Kalwak, Birgitte Lausen, Srdjana Culic, et al.

# ▶ To cite this version:

Deborah Meyran, Arnaud Petit, Joelle Guilhot, Meinolf Suttorp, Petr Sedlacek, et al.. Lymphoblastic predominance of blastic phase in children with chronic myeloid leukaemia treated with imatinib: A report from the I-CML-Ped Study. European Journal of Cancer, 2020, 137, pp.224 - 234. 10.1016/j.ejca.2020.06.024 . hal-03492159

# HAL Id: hal-03492159 https://hal.science/hal-03492159

Submitted on 22 Aug 2022

**HAL** is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers. L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.



Distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution - NonCommercial 4.0 International License

1	Title: Lymphoblastic predominance of blastic phase in children with chronic myeloid
2	leukemia treated with imatinib: a report from the I-CML-Ped Study
3	Authors: Deborah Meyran <sup>1</sup> *, Arnaud Petit <sup>2</sup> *, Joelle Guilhot <sup>3</sup> , Meinolf Suttorp <sup>4</sup> , Petr
4	Sedlacek <sup>5</sup> , Eveline De Bont <sup>6</sup> , Chi Kong Li <sup>7</sup> , Krzysztof Kalwak <sup>8</sup> , Birgitte Lausen <sup>9</sup> , Srdjana
5	Culic <sup>10</sup> , Barbara de Moerloose <sup>11</sup> , Andrea Biondi <sup>12</sup> , and Frédéric Millot <sup>3</sup>
6	1- Department of Pediatric Hematology, Robert Debré Hospital, Paris, France
7	2- Department of Pediatric Hematology, Armand Trousseau Hospital, Paris, France
8	3- Inserm CIC 1402, University Hospital, Poitiers, France
9	4- Medical Faculty, Pediatric Hemato-Oncology, Technical University, Dresden, Germany
10	5- Department of Pediatric Hemato-Oncology, University Hospital Motol, Prague, Czech
11	Republic
12	6- Departments of Paediatric Oncology/Haematology, Beatrix Children's Hospital, University
13	Medical Centre Groningen, University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands
14	7- Department of Pediatrics, Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong, China
15	8- Department of Pediatric Hematology Oncology and Transplantation, Wroclaw Medical
16	University, Poland
17	9- Department of Pediatrics, Rigshospitalet, University Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark
18	10- Department of Pediatric Hematology Oncology Immunology and Medical Genetics,
19	Clinical Hospital Split, Croatia
20	11- Department of Pediatrics, Ghent University Hospital, Belgium

21	12- Department of Pediatrics, University of Milano-Bicocca, San Gerardo Hospital,										
22	Fondazione MBBM, Monza, Italy										
23	* Deborah Meyran and Arnaud Petit contributed equally to this study.										
24	Corresponding author: Deborah Meyran										
25	Hopital Robert Debré,										
26	48 Boulevard Sérurier, 75019 Paris, France. Tel.: +33 1 40 03 53 88; Fax: +33 1 40 03 47 40										
27	E-mail address: deborah.meyran@hotmail.fr										
28											
29	Preliminary data was presented at the 57 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Society of										
30	Hematology, Orlando, December 2015.										
31											
32	Keywords										
33	Chronic myeloid leukemia; Children; Accelerated phase; Blastic phase; Tyrosine kinase										
34	inhibitors; Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.										
35											
36											
37											
38											
39											
40											

#### 41 Abstract

42 Background: Chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) is a rare disease in children. The frequency 43 and outcome of children evolving to accelerated phase (AP) or blastic phase (BP) under 44 treatment with imatinib is unknown. The aim of the current study is to assess the incidence of 45 progression from CML in chronic phase with imatinib frontline in a pediatric setting and 46 describe the management and outcome of these patients.

47 *Patients and Methods:* In the I-CML-Ped Study database (www.clinicaltrials.gov,
48 #NCT01281735), 19 of 339 pediatric patients in chronic phase treated with imatinib in the
49 frontline evolved to CML-AP or CML-BP.

50 **Results**: With a median follow-up of 38 months (range: 2-190 months), the cumulative 51 incidence of progression at one and three years was 3% (CI 95%: 1-5%) and 7% (CI 95%: 4-52 11%), respectively. We observed a large predominance of lymphoid-BP (70%) over myeloid-53 BP (30%) with imatinib in frontline therapy. Sixteen patients underwent hematopoietic stem 54 cell transplantation and eight were treated with a tyrosine kinase inhibitor after transplant. 55 Only the transplanted patients are alive. The five-year overall survival rate of children with 56 CML-AP/BP is 44%, with no statistical difference between the lymphoid-BP and myeloid-BP 57 outcome.

*Conclusion:* Children evolving to AP or BP under treatment with imatinib have a very poor
prognosis with an OS under 50%, much worse than children with advanced phase at diagnosis.

61

# Introduction

62 Chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) is rare in children, accounting for 2 to 3% of 63 childhood leukemias [1], with an average annual incidence of 0.6-1.0 cases per million in 64 children vounger than 15 years [2]. At diagnosis, approximately 95% of pediatric patients are 65 in chronic phase (CML-CP), similar to the frequency in adults [3]. In the absence of treatment, 66 CML progresses from CML-CP to accelerated phase (CML-AP) or blastic phase (CML-BP) 67 [4]. The frequency of progression to CML-AP or CML-BP is remarkably reduced by tyrosine 68 kinase inhibitor (TKI) treatment, currently estimated to be in the range of 1-1.5% per year [5] 69 versus more than 20% yearly in the pre-TKI era [6]. In adults, CML-BP occurring under TKI 70 treatment expresses a predominantly myeloid phenotype (60-80%) [7]. Despite guidelines for 71 the management of CML-BP in adult patients, their outcome is poor, with an overall survival 72 (OS) at 12 months from 20% before TKI era to 50% after the introduction of TKI [8]. 73 Imatinib was introduced for the treatment of children with CML in the 2000s and is still the 74 most prescribed first-line therapy for CML-CP even if the second-generation TKI (2G-TKIs) 75 have been recently approved in this age group [9, 10]. Here, we aimed to describe the 76 characteristics and outcome of CML-AP and CML-BP occurring under treatment with 77 imatinib in children with CML.

78

## 79 Materials and methods

80

Patients were identified from the I-CML-Ped Study (www.clinicaltrials.gov #NCT01281735), a database of patients from 0-18 years old with CML from 37 centers in 14 countries. The I-CML-Ped Study was set up to assess epidemiology, management and outcome of CML in children and adolescents and recorded the data retrospectively from 2000 until 2010 then prospectively from 2011. This study was approved by the institutional review
board of the University Hospital of Poitiers, in accordance with the declaration of Helsinski.

87 A total of 445 patients were enrolled from 2001 to January 2016. At diagnosis, 376 88 patients were in CML-CP according to the European LeukaemiaNet (ELN) criteria [11] and 89 339 received upfront imatinib treatment. Among the 339 patients in CML-CP with imatinib 90 frontline, 19 patients evolved from CML-CP to CML-AP or to CML-BP and represent the 91 study cohort named as AP/BP cohort (Supplemental Figure). The median follow-up of the 92 AP/BP cohort was 38 months (range: 2-190). Patient characteristics are provided in Table 1. 93 The median age at diagnosis of AP/BP cohort was 13.2 years (range: 4.5 to 16.8) with a M/F 94 sex ratio of 2.8. Progression to CML-AP or CML-BP is a time dependent variable. Therefore, 95 to compare the characteristics at diagnosis of the AP/BP cohort to a control cohort of patients 96 who did not progress with imatinib frontline, we took into consideration only the patients who 97 had a follow-up above 58 months, which is the maximum delay of CML-BP onset of the 98 AP/BP cohort. We also excluded the transplanted patients from the control cohort because 99 hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) could change the prognosis (Supplemental 100 Figure). Although it is important to mention that no death was recorded in the whole cohort of 101 patients who did not progress and have a follow-up >58 months, inclusive of both 102 transplanted and non-transplanted patients. Overall, the control cohort includes 92 patients. 103 The median follow-up of the control cohort was 94 months (range: 58.1-168.3 months).

104 The Sokal score was determined using the formula for patients under 45 years old [12]. 105 The diagnosis of CML was assessed by cytogenetic analysis or in case of failure by 106 fluorescence *in situ* hybridization (FISH) [13]. BCR-ABL1 transcript level in the blood was 107 determined by using quantitative reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction as reported 108 previously and was expressed according to the international scale (IS) [14]. The cytogenetic 109 and molecular responses were defined according to the ELN criteria [11]. CML-AP was

110 defined by blasts in blood or bone marrow (BM) between 15-29%, or blasts cells plus 111 promyelocytes in blood or BM > 30% with blasts cells < 30%, basophils in blood > 20%, 112 persistent thrombocytopenia ( $<100 \times 10^9$ /l) unrelated to therapy, cytogenetic evidence of clonal 113 evolution. CML-BP was defined by the presence of at least 30% of blasts cells in blood or 114 BM, or evidence of extramedullary disease [11]. The myeloid or lymphoid 115 immunophenotype of CML-BP was determined by flow cytometry [15]. BCR-ABL1 kinase 116 domain (KD) mutation analysis was performed as previously reported in case of suboptimal 117 response or treatment failure. Differences in baseline characteristics between AP/BP cohort 118 and the control cohort were tested using the Fisher's exact test for categorical data or the 119 Wilcoxon rank sum test for continuous variables. OS was estimated using the Kaplan-Meier 120 method [16]. In order to account for competing events, incidence of progression along time 121 was estimated by the cumulative incidence function with the use of Fine and Gray models. 122 Competitive events were deaths from causes other than progression. Analyses were performed 123 using the SAS® v 9.3 (SAS Institute).

#### 124 **Results**

125 In the I-CML-Ped Study database, the cumulative incidence of progression at one and 126 three years was 3% (CI 95%: 1-5%) and 7% (CI 95%: 4-11%), respectively. Baseline 127 characteristics of the AP/BP cohort compared with the control cohort of 92 patients who did 128 not progress with imatinib frontline are presented in Table 1. Notably, patients in the AP/BP 129 group had significantly more aggressive clinical and biological features with larger 130 splenomegaly, higher white blood cells count and lower platelet count. Only ELTS score at 131 CML-CP diagnosis was significantly discriminant to predict progression with nine (48%) of 132 the 19 AP/BP patients who were high-risk compared to 8 (10%) in the control cohort. Eight 133 patients had a BCR-ABL1 fusion identified by FISH only. The other AP/BP patients had a karyotype showing the classical translocation t(9;22)(q34;q11) except for one who had a
variant translocation t(1;9;22)(q12;q34;q11).

136 Eleven of the 19 patients (58%) received hydroxyurea before the start of TKI. Imatinib was the first-line TKI for all patients. The dose was 260 mg/m<sup>2</sup> for 12 patients and 300-340 137 138  $mg/m^2$  for seven. Three patients received a concomitant additional treatment: triple intrathecal 139 injection (n=1) for a retinal leukostasis, mitoxantrone (n=1) to reduce the leucocytes count, 140 and cytarabine/interferon (n=1) for hemorrhagic retinopathy (Table 2). Because of non-141 achievement of cytogenetic and/or molecular responses, the dose of imatinib was increased in six patients (from 260 to 300  $mg/m^2$  or from 300 to 400-600  $mg/m^2$ ), whereas eight were 142 switched to dasatinib (60-80 mg/m<sup>2</sup>). By comparison, among the 320 patients treated with 143 144 imatinib frontline who did not progress, 71 (22%) were switched to a second generation TKI 145 due to poor response. Furthermore, three from the five patients of the AP/BP cohort who 146 initially had a good response discontinued imatinib for toxicity (n=2) or inadequate 147 compliance (n=1). Before the occurrence of CML-AP/CML-BP, six patients (31%) obtained a 148 complete cytogenic response (CCyR) after a median time of 12 months (range: 6-29) and only 149 two (11%) achieved a major molecular response (MMR) at 18 months (Supplemental Table 1). 150 The median duration of TKI before the occurrence of CML-AP or CML-BP was 11.4 151 months (range: 3-56.6). Seven patients (37%) discontinued TKI for a median duration of 40 152 days (range: 7-130), for intolerance (n=4) and non-compliance (n=3). Among the four patients 153 who discontinued imatinib for intolerance, imatinib was resumed in three of them at the same 154 dose (n=1) or at a lower dose (n=2). The other patient who was initially treated with a reduced 155 dosage of imatinib was finally switched to dasatanib. The mutational status of the BCR-ABL1 156 kinase domain was only evaluated for 12 patients when CML-AP or CML-BP was diagnosed. 157 Six of the 12 patients monitored (50%) acquired KD mutations (Table 2). In the study cohort, 158 four patients quickly evolved to CML-AP after a median of 8.7 months (range: 3.2-18.1) from

the start of imatinib. For one patient, CML-AP was exclusively defined by clonal evolution
with the emergence of monosomy 7. CML-AP evolved rapidly to CML-BP for two patients,
after a median of 3.5 months (range: 1.8-5.3). Overall, 17 patients evolved to CML-BP,
including two after CML-AP after a median of 12.3 months from diagnosis (range: 3-58).

Twelve (70%) of the 17 patients evolved towards lymphoid CML-BP whilst five (30%) evolved towards myeloid CML-BP, after a median of 9.8 months (range: 3-56.6) and 17.7 months (range: 9.2-24.6) from the start of imatinib, respectively. At the time of CML-AP or CML-BP, 10 of 11 patients monitored (90%) acquired additional cytogenetic abnormalities (*Supplemental Table 2*).

168 CML-AP was treated by increasing the dose of imatinib from 300 to 500-600 mg/day for 169 two of the four patients in CML-AP, whereas the others were switched to dasatinib. Sixteen of 170 17 patients in CML-BP were treated according to acute myeloid leukemia (AML) or acute 171 lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) protocols, combined with imatinib or second generation TKI. 172 Only one patient, patient 7, with lymphoid CML-BP was treated with dasatinib alone before 173 HSCT (Table 2). Three patients died from progressive disease before scheduled HSCT after a 174 median of 12.5 months (range: 6.5-19.2) from CML-AP/CML-BP diagnosis. Overall, 16 175 patients underwent HSCT. The median interval from CML-AP/CML-BP diagnosis to HSCT 176 was 5 months (range: 1.2-8.5). At transplant, nine of the remaining 16 patients (56%) had 177 achieved CCyR and four (25%) MMR (Supplemental Table 1). Details of the HSCT 178 procedures are given in Table 2. At first assessment post-HSCT, 10 patients (63%) were in 179 CCyR and nine (56%) in MMR. Eight received a second generation TKI post-transplant. 180 After HSCT, five patients died, three from progressive disease and two from transplant-181 related events. Eleven patients are still alive; 10 are in MMR, but one had a lymphoid CML-182 BP relapse 26 months after transplant. Five-year OS was 44% (*Figure 1A*), with no statistical 183 difference between lymphoid-BP OS (29%) and myeloid-BP OS (40%) (Figure 1B).

#### 184 **Discussion**

185 This is the first study to assess the incidence and the outcome of CML-AP and CML-BP 186 in children treated with imatinib. Imatinib still remains the main frontline therapy in children 187 because there is more experience with its efficacy and its toxicity than with the other TKIs 188 [17-19]. Only few studies have evaluated the rate of progression to CML-AP or CML-BP in a 189 population-based setting. A recent report in adults showed a rate of cumulative incidence of 190 progression of 4.3% at two years [20]. We observed a quite similar proportion in children 191 with cumulative incidence of progression at one and three years at 3% (CI 95%: 1-5%) and 192 7% (CI 95%: 4-11%), respectively.

193 Many studies have previously reported that children in CP have clinical presentations with 194 more aggressive features than adults [21-23]. However, scoring systems in CML based on 195 clinical and biological characteristics of the disease at diagnosis, such as Sokal, Hasford, and 196 EUTOS, have been developed within an adult setting. In children with CML, only the ELTS 197 score at diagnosis demonstrates better differentiation of progression-free survival [24]. In our 198 study, we used both the Sokal young score and ELTS score to define the risk groups of the 199 patients. The vast majority (74%) of the AP/BP cohort and half of the control patients were 200 allocated to the high-risk group according to the Sokal young score whereas the ELTS score 201 identified a lower proportion of high-risk children in the control cohort (10%) compared to 202 the proportion in the AP/BP cohort (48%). Sokal risk score that classifies most of the children 203 with CML-CP in high risk group at diagnosis is therefore less discriminating for predicting 204 progression than ELTS risk score. Until a new specific score incorporating clinical, biological 205 and molecular features is developed in this age group to better predict progression, patients 206 with high ELTS risk score must be closely monitored.

Early cytogenetic and molecular responses are reported to the best predictors of good outcome [11]. These two parameters were clearly not satisfactory in our cohort. Non-

209 adherence is one of the most common reasons for suboptimal response and treatment failure 210 in patients with CML treated with TKI [25]. Indeed, adolescence is a well-known challenge to 211 compliance in pediatric patients with chronic diseases [26, 27]. In our study, the proportion of 212 discontinuation of this pediatric AP/BP cohort is approximately the same as that reported in 213 previous studies for adults with CML treated by oral TKI (15-30%) [28]. However, the 214 proportion of patients who discontinued TKI for inadequate compliance and experienced 215 CML progression remains difficult to assess because it relies on patients' declaration. At the 216 onset of CML-AP or CML-BP, 50% of the patients who were monitored acquired KD 217 mutations including T315I mutation. KD mutations T315I and G250E are associated with 218 imatinib failure, which can be overcome by switching treatment to a third or fourth generation 219 TKI [29]. However, in pediatrics, the therapeutic options are limited because ponatinib is still 220 not approved in children. Only few cases of young patients treated by ponatinib have been 221 reported in the literature, with no safe dose having been determined in children [30, 31]. For 222 suboptimal responses or failure, patients have been either treated with an increased dose of imatinib or switched to a second generation TKI. Recently, a therapeutic algorithm based on 223 224 pediatric hematologists' experience has been proposed to treat children in CML-CP once 225 failure or suboptimal response has been detected [32]. Probably with this new algorithm, 226 some of our patients would have been switched earlier to a second-generation TKI. However, 227 it should be taken into account that the I-CML study is an international database and access to 228 certain expensive molecules like the second-generation TKI could be more difficult in some 229 of the countries participating in this study.

In adult cohorts, a predominance of myeloid immunophenotype of CML-BP (60-80%) was observed [7, 33]. In contrast to adult patients with CML, we observed predominantly lymphoid-BP (70%) in children with upfront imatinib treatment. In another report from the I-CML-Study, we have also observed a predominance of lymphoid phenotype of *de novo*  advanced phases of childhood CML [34]. The median time to the onset of the myeloid-BP
was longer than that of lymphoid-BP, 17.7 months (range: 9.2-24.6) and 9.8 months (range: 356.6) respectively. Similarly, in an adult cohort, the median time from first diagnosis to
myeloid-BP was also longer than that of lymphoid-BP, 39 months (range: 0-307) and 24
months (range:0-161) respectively [35]. The median follow-up of 38 months is sufficiently
long to limit a follow-up-dependent bias.

240 While children with *de novo* advanced phases have a favorable outcome with five-year OS 241 rates at 94% and 74% for patients diagnosed in CML-AP and CML-BP respectively [34], the 242 survival is poorer, less than 50%, when the transformation occurs from CML-CP to CML-AP 243 or CML-BP while on TKI therapy. A similar outcome is observed in adults treated after 244 progression from CML-CP with a median survival rate between 6-37 months and less than 12 245 months for patients with CML-AP and CML-BP, respectively [7, 33]. Like adult cohorts [33], 246 our data suggest that allo-HSCT may represent the best chance of long-term remission or cure 247 in CML-BP. The current National Comprehensive Cancer Network guidelines suggest that 248 patients who progress to CML-BP should receive an allo-HSCT within 3 to 6 months from 249 diagnosis [8, 36]. However, experience in children with CML in advanced stages is very 250 limited because of the small number of cases.

251

#### 252 *Conclusion*

In a pediatric setting, the cumulative incidence of progression of CML-CP with upfront imatinib treatment at one and three years is 3% and 7%, respectively, with a predominance of lymphoid progression. While children with *de novo* advanced phases have a favorable outcome, the five-year OS of progression to CML-AP or CML-BP in pediatric patients is poor, less than 50%, with no significant difference in outcome by immunophenotypic subtype. Bearing in mind the small number of pediatric patients with CML, allo-HSCT remains the best therapeutic option for the young patients in CML-AP or CML-BP who progressed undertreatment with imatinib.

## 261 Acknowledgements

The authors gratefully acknowledge Violaine Goyeau and Sophie Zin-Ka-Leu for the data monitoring. The authors thank the ARHME (Association pour le Recherche sur les Maladies Hématologiques de l'Enfant), the SFCE (Société Française de lutte contre les Cancers et les leucémies de l'Enfant et de l'adolescent) and « Enfants Cancers Santé » for their support. The authors thank Jessica Li for reviewing the manuscript.

267

# 268 Authorship

269 D.M. and A.P. equally wrote the manuscript. F.M. coordinated the study. J.G. performed the

270 statistical analysis. M.S., P.S., E.D.B., C.K.L., K.K., B.L., S.C., B.D.M., and A.B provided

271 patients. All authors reviewed the final version of the manuscript.

272 Conflict-of-interest disclosure: The authors declare no competing financial interests.

#### 274 **Figure legend:**

- Figure 1. Outcome of CML-AP/CML-BP. Overall survival since the onset of imatinib was
- analyzed using Kaplan-Meier methodology. (A) for the overall population. (B) by subtype
- 277 (CML-AP, lymphoid-BP, and myeloid-BP). AP, accelerated phase; BP, blastic phase.

## 278 References

- 279 [1]. Hijiya N, Schultz KR, Metzler M, Millot F, Suttorp M. Pediatric chronic myeloid
- leukemia is a unique disease that requires a different approach. Blood. 2016;127(4):392-9.
- 281 http://doi.org/10.1182/blood-2015-06-648667.
- 282 [2]. Ries L.A.G. SM, Gurney J.G., Linet M., Tamra T., Young J.L. Y, et al. (Eds.). Cancer
- incidence and survival among children and adolescents: United States SEER program 1975-
- 284 1995. National cancer institute, 99, SEER Program, Bethesda, MD. 1999. p 46-49.
- 285 https://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1973\_1996/overview.pdf.
- [3]. Hoffmann VS, Baccarani M, Hasford J, Lindoerfer D, Burgstaller S, Sertic D, et al.
- 287 The EUTOS population-based registry: incidence and clinical characteristics of 2904 CML
- patients in 20 European Countries. Leukemia. 2015;29(6):1336-43.
- 289 http://doi.org/10.1038/leu.2015.73.
- 290 [4]. Faderl S, Talpaz M, Estrov Z, O'Brien S, Kurzrock R, Kantarjian HM. The biology of
- chronic myeloid leukemia. N Engl J Med. 1999;341(3):164-72.
- 292 http://doi.org/10.1056/NEJM199907153410306.
- [5]. Druker BJ, Guilhot F, O'Brien SG, Gathmann I, Kantarjian H, Gattermann N, et al.
- 294 Five-year follow-up of patients receiving imatinib for chronic myeloid leukemia. N Engl J
- 295 Med. 2006;355(23):2408-17. http://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa062867.
- 296 [6]. Baccarani M, Rosti G, de Vivo A, Bonifazi F, Russo D, Martinelli G, et al. A
- randomized study of interferon-alpha versus interferon-alpha and low-dose arabinosyl

298 cytosine in chronic myeloid leukemia. Blood. 2002;99(5):1527-35.

299 http://doi.org/10.1182/blood.v99.5.1527.

- 300 [7]. Hehlmann R, Lauseker M, Saussele S, Pfirrmann M, Krause S, Kolb HJ, et al.
- 301 Assessment of imatinib as first-line treatment of chronic myeloid leukemia: 10-year survival
- 302 results of the randomized CML study IV and impact of non-CML determinants. Leukemia.
- 303 2017;31(11):2398-406. http://doi.org/10.1038/leu.2017.253.
- 304 [8]. Hehlmann R, Saussele S, Voskanyan A, Silver RT. Management of CML-blast crisis.
- 305 Best Pract Res Clin Haematol. 2016;29(3):295-307. http://doi.org/10.1016/j.beha.2016.10.005.
- 306 [9]. Gore L, Kearns PR, de Martino ML, Lee, De Souza CA, Bertrand Y, et al. Dasatinib
- 307 in Pediatric Patients With Chronic Myeloid Leukemia in Chronic Phase: Results From a
- 308 Phase II Trial. J Clin Oncol. 2018;36(13):1330-8. http://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2017.75.9597.
- 309 [10]. Hijiya N, Maschan A, Rizzari C, Shimada H, Dufour C, Goto H, et al. Phase 2 study
- 310 of nilotinib in pediatric patients with Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid
- 311 leukemia. Blood. 2019;134(23):2036-45. http://doi.org/10.1182/blood.2019000069.
- 312 [11]. Baccarani M, Deininger MW, Rosti G, Hochhaus A, Soverini S, Apperley JF, et al.
- 313 European LeukemiaNet recommendations for the management of chronic myeloid leukemia:
- 314 2013. Blood. 2013;122(6):872-84. http://doi.org/10.1182/blood-2013-05-501569.
- 315 [12]. Sokal JE, Baccarani M, Tura S, Fiacchini M, Cervantes F, Rozman C, et al. Prognostic
- 316 discrimination among younger patients with chronic granulocytic leukemia: relevance to bone
- 317 marrow transplantation. Blood. 1985;66(6):1352-7.
- 318 https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/3904870
- 319 [13]. Schoch C, Schnittger S, Bursch S, Gerstner D, Hochhaus A, Berger U, et al.
- 320 Comparison of chromosome banding analysis, interphase- and hypermetaphase-FISH,
- 321 qualitative and quantitative PCR for diagnosis and for follow-up in chronic myeloid leukemia:
- 322 a study on 350 cases. Leukemia. 2002;16(1):53-9. http://doi.org/10.1038/sj.leu.2402329.

- 323 [14]. Hughes T, Deininger M, Hochhaus A, Branford S, Radich J, Kaeda J, et al.
- 324 Monitoring CML patients responding to treatment with tyrosine kinase inhibitors: review and
- 325 recommendations for harmonizing current methodology for detecting BCR-ABL transcripts
- and kinase domain mutations and for expressing results. Blood. 2006;108(1):28-37.
- 327 http://doi.org/10.1182/blood-2006-01-0092.
- 328 [15]. Bene MC, Castoldi G, Knapp W, Ludwig WD, Matutes E, Orfao A, et al. Proposals
- 329 for the immunological classification of acute leukemias. European Group for the
- 330 Immunological Characterization of Leukemias (EGIL). Leukemia. 1995;9(10):1783-6.
- 331 cdn.intechweb.org/pdfs/25114.pdf.
- 332 [16]. Kaplan EL, Meier P. Nonparametric Estimation from Incomplete Observations.
- Journal of the American Statistical Association. June 958;53(282):457-81.
- 334 http://doi.org/10.2307/2281868.
- 335 [17]. Champagne MA, Fu CH, Chang M, Chen H, Gerbing RB, Alonzo TA, et al. Higher

dose imatinib for children with de novo chronic phase chronic myelogenous leukemia: a

- report from the Children's Oncology Group. Pediatr Blood Cancer. 2011;57(1):56-62.
- 338 http://doi.org/10.1002/pbc.23031.
- 339 [18]. Millot F, Baruchel A, Guilhot J, Petit A, Leblanc T, Bertrand Y, et al. Imatinib is
- 340 effective in children with previously untreated chronic myelogenous leukemia in early chronic
- 341 phase: results of the French national phase IV trial. J Clin Oncol. 2011;29(20):2827-32.
- 342 http://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2010.32.7114.
- 343 [19]. Suttorp M, Schulze P, Glauche I, Gohring G, von Neuhoff N, Metzler M, et al. Front-
- 344 line imatinib treatment in children and adolescents with chronic myeloid leukemia: results
- 345 from a phase III trial. Leukemia. 2018;32(7):1657-69. http://doi.org/10.1038/s41375-018-
- **346** 0179-9.

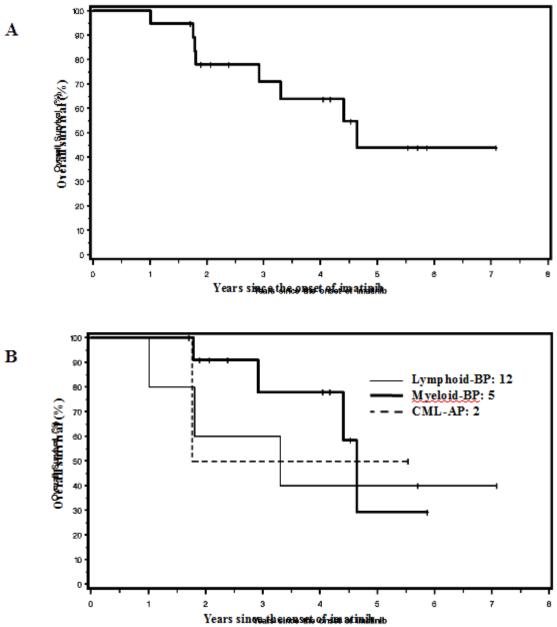
- 347 [20]. Soderlund S, Dahlen T, Sandin F, Olsson-Stromberg U, Creignou M, Dreimane A, et
- al. Advanced phase chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) in the tyrosine kinase inhibitor era a
- report from the Swedish CML register. Eur J Haematol. 2017;98(1):57-66.
- 350 http://doi.org/10.1111/ejh.12785.
- 351 [21]. Castagnetti F, Gugliotta G, Baccarani M, Breccia M, Specchia G, Levato L, et al.
- 352 Differences among young adults, adults and elderly chronic myeloid leukemia patients. Ann
- 353 Oncol. 2015;26(1):185-92. http://doi.org/10.1093/annonc/mdu490.
- 354 [22]. Kalmanti L, Saussele S, Lauseker M, Proetel U, Muller MC, Hanfstein B, et al.
- 355 Younger patients with chronic myeloid leukemia do well in spite of poor prognostic
- indicators: results from the randomized CML study IV. Ann Hematol. 2014;93(1):71-80.
- 357 http://doi.org/10.1007/s00277-013-1937-4.
- 358 [23]. Millot F, Traore P, Guilhot J, Nelken B, Leblanc T, Leverger G, et al. Clinical and
- 359 biological features at diagnosis in 40 children with chronic myeloid leukemia. Pediatrics.
- 360 2005;116(1):140-3. http://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2004-2473.
- 361 [24]. Millot F, Guilhot J, Suttorp M, Gunes AM, Sedlacek P, De Bont E, et al. Prognostic
- 362 discrimination based on the EUTOS long-term survival score within the International Registry
- 363 for Chronic Myeloid Leukemia in children and adolescents. Haematologica.
- 364 2017;102(10):1704-8. http://doi.org/10.3324/haematol.2017.170035.
- 365 [25]. Marin D, Bazeos A, Mahon FX, Eliasson L, Milojkovic D, Bua M, et al. Adherence is
- the critical factor for achieving molecular responses in patients with chronic myeloid
- 367 leukemia who achieve complete cytogenetic responses on imatinib. J Clin Oncol.
- 368 2010;28(14):2381-8. http://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2009.26.3087.
- 369 [26]. Millot F, Claviez A, Leverger G, Corbaciglu S, Groll AH, Suttorp M. Imatinib
- 370 cessation in children and adolescents with chronic myeloid leukemia in chronic phase. Pediatr
- 371 Blood Cancer. 2014;61(2):355-7. http://doi.org/10.1002/pbc.24521.

- 372 [27]. Rohan JM, Fukuda T, Alderfer MA, Wetherington Donewar C, Ewing L, Katz ER, et
- 373 al. Measuring Medication Adherence in Pediatric Cancer: An Approach to Validation. J
- 374 Pediatr Psychol. 2017;42(2):232-44. http://doi.org/10.1093/jpepsy/jsw039.
- 375 [28]. Geissler J, Sharf G, Bombaci F, Daban M, De Jong J, Gavin T, et al. Factors
- influencing adherence in CML and ways to improvement: Results of a patient-driven survey
- of 2546 patients in 63 countries. J Cancer Res Clin Oncol. 2017;143(7):1167-76.
- 378 http://doi.org/10.1007/s00432-017-2372-z.
- 279 [29]. Cayuela JM, Chomel JC, Coiteux V, Dulucq S, Escoffre-Barbe M, Etancelin P, et al.
- 380 [Recommendations from the French CML Study Group (Fi-LMC) for BCR-ABL1 kinase
- domain mutation analysis in chronic myeloid leukemia]. Bull Cancer. 2019.
- 382 http://doi.org/10.1016/j.bulcan.2019.05.011.
- 383 [30]. Nickel RS, Daves M, Keller F. Treatment of an adolescent with chronic myeloid
- leukemia and the T315I mutation with ponatinib. Pediatr Blood Cancer. 2015;62(11):2050-1.
- 385 http://doi.org/10.1002/pbc.25551.
- 386 [31]. Yamamoto M, Hori T, Igarashi K, Shimada H, Tsutsumi H. Response to ponatinib
- 387 before hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in a child with relapsed Philadelphia
- 388 chromosome-positive acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Pediatr Int. 2018;60(1):85-7.
- 389 http://doi.org/10.1111/ped.13437.
- 390 [32]. Hijiya N, Suttorp M. How I treat chronic myeloid leukemia in children and
- 391 adolescents. Blood. 2019;133(22):2374-84. http://doi.org/10.1182/blood.2018882233.
- 392 [33]. Jain P, Kantarjian HM, Ghorab A, Sasaki K, Jabbour EJ, Nogueras Gonzalez G, et al.
- 393 Prognostic factors and survival outcomes in patients with chronic myeloid leukemia in blast
- 394 phase in the tyrosine kinase inhibitor era: Cohort study of 477 patients. Cancer.
- 395 2017;123(22):4391-402. http://doi.org/10.1002/cncr.30864.

- 396 [34]. Millot F, Maledon N, Guilhot J, Gunes AM, Kalwak K, Suttorp M. Favourable
- 397 outcome of de novo advanced phases of childhood chronic myeloid leukaemia. Eur J Cancer.
- 398 2019;115:17-23. http://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejca.2019.03.020.
- 399 [35]. Palandri F, Castagnetti F, Testoni N, Luatti S, Marzocchi G, Bassi S, et al. Chronic
- 400 myeloid leukemia in blast crisis treated with imatinib 600 mg: outcome of the patients alive
- 401 after a 6-year follow-up. Haematologica. 2008;93(12):1792-6.
- 402 http://doi.org/10.3324/haematol.13068.
- 403 [36]. Radich JP, Deininger M, Abboud CN, Altman JK, Berman E, Bhatia R, et al. Chronic
- 404 Myeloid Leukemia, Version 1.2019, NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology. J Natl
- 405 Compr Canc Netw. 2018;16(9):1108-35. http://doi.org/10.6004/jnccn.2018.0071.

406

407



Characteristics	N = 92 control patients	N missing	N = 19 AP/BP patients	N missing	р	N=2 AP	N = 12 Lymphoid- BP	N = 5 Myeloid- BP	р
Gender, no. (%)			<b>F</b>		> 0.05				> 0.05
Female	42 (46)		5 (26)			1	2 (17)	2 (40)	
Male	50 (54)		14 (74)			1	10 (83)	3 (60)	
Age at diagnosis, ys							~ /		
Median	11.4		13.2		> 0.05	14.3	12.4	11.8	> 0.05
(range)	(1.0 to 17.4)		(4.5 to 16.8)			(13.8 to 14.8)	(6 to 15.4)	(4.5 to16.8)	
< 4(%)	8 (9)		0 (0)			0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	
4-9 (%)	22 (24)		4 (21)			0 (0)	3 (25)	1 (20)	
10-14 (%)	43 (47)		11 (58)			2 (100)	7 (58)	2 (40)	
$\geq 15$ (%)	19 (21)		4 (21)			0 (0)	2 (17)	2 (40)	
Lansky performance (%)		6	~ /	3	NA				> 0.05
100	52 (60)		10 (63)			0 (0)	7 (70)	3 (75)	
90	20 (23)		4 (25)			1(50)	2 (20)	1 (25)	
80	10(12)		2 (12)			1 (50)	1 (10)	0(0)	
<80	4 (5)		0 (0)			0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	
Splenomegaly, no. (%)	65 (71)	1	18 (95)		0.0388	2 (100)	11 (92)	5 (100)	> 0.05
Spleen size, cm		7							
Median (range)	6 (0-24)		12 (0-25)		0.0003				> 0.05
$\leq 10$	55 (65)		5 (26)		010000	0 (0)	3 (25)	2 (40)	/ 0.00
>10	30 (35)		14 (74)			2 (100)	9 (75)	3 (60)	
Hepatomegaly, no. (%)	31 (34)	1	9 (47)		> 0.05	1 (50)	5 (42)	3 (60)	> 0.05
Sokal risk score for patients. (%)	01 (01)	10	>()		> 0.05	1 (00)	0 (12)	2 (00)	> 0.05
Low (<0.8)	17(21)		1 (5)			0 (0)	1 (8)	0 (0)	
Intermediate (0.8-1.2)	24 (29)		4 (21)			0 (0)	2 (17)	2 (40)	
High (>1.2)	41 (50)		14 (74)			2 (100)	9 (75)	3 (60)	
ELTS risk score. (%)	11 (50)	10	11(/1)		0.0003	2 (100)	) (15)	5 (00)	> 0.05
Low (<0.8)	54 (66)	10	5 (26)		0.0005	0 (0)	5 (42)	0 (0)	> 0.05
Intermediate (0.8-1.2)	20 (24)		5 (26)			0 (0)	2 (17)	3 (60)	
High (>1.2)	8 (10)		9 (48)			2 (100)	5 (42)	2 (40)	
Median WBC count (range) x10 <sup>9</sup> /L	253 (5-810)		360 (70-637)		0.0329	411	371	225	> 0.05
Median haemoglobin (range), g/L	94 (40-170)		89 (68-138)		> 0.05	111	91	86	> 0.05
Median Platelet count (range) x10 <sup>9</sup> /L	504 (51-		428 (25-976)		<b>0.0107</b>	480	309	472	> 0.05
Wiedian Thatelet Count (Tange) XT0 /L	4220)		428 (23-970)		0.0107	400	309	472	20.05
BCR-ABL1 transcripts	4220)	11		2	NA				NA
p210	81		17	-	1121	1	12	4	1 12 1
b2a2	32		4			0	2	2	
b3a2	43		4			0	3	1	
b2a2/b3a2	6		2			1	1	0	
unspecified	0		7			0	6	1	

**Table 1. Patient characteristics at the time of diagnosis in chronic phase.** AP, accelerated phase; BP, blastic phase; Ys, years; no, number; WBC, white blood cell; NA, not applicable.

	C	Chronic phase		Accelerated phase or blastic phase								
Patients	Age (y), sex,	First-line treatment	Stop TKI	Interval*** (m)	Туре	Treatment of CML-AP/CML-BP	ABL1 KD mutations	CR before HSCT	MR before HSCT%	Donor Compatibility	Preparative regimen	Outcome
1	15, M	hydroxyurea, imatinib	Yes*	12.3	Lymphoid- BP CNS+	dasatinib for 2 weeks (stop for neutropenia), then corticosteroid+rituximab+daunorubicin/vincristine/ cyclophosphamide/L-asparaginase +TIT + nilotinib	P-loop L248V	Complete	0	Unrelated cord blood, 6/6	TBI/ cyclophosphamide	Dead, sepsis from Cryptococcus laurenti
2	12, M	hydroxyurea, imatinib + TIT	No	24.9	Myeloid- BP	ELAM02: Induction, then consolidation 1, then half- consolidation 3 + nilotinib	F317L	Complete	3.7	Unrelated donor, BM 9/10	busulfan/ cyclophosphamide /ATG	Alive, still nilotinib post-allograft (5 years post-transplant)
3	14, M	hydroxyurea, cytarabine, interferon, imatinib	Yes**	31 (lymphoid- BP 40 (myeloid- BP)	Lymphoid- BP CNS+ then myeloid-BP	Lymphoid-BP: dexamethasone, HYPERCVAD (cyclophoshamide /vincristine /doxorubicin /dexamethasone) methotrexate + HD-cytarabine+ dasatinib. 12 TIT, Radiotherapy 18 Gy, 2 IT, Myeloid-BP: azacytidine, LD-cytarabine+nilotinib	No mutation	Complete	0.17	Unrelated cord blood (double), 5/6	cyclophosphamide/ fludarabine/TBI	Dead, relapse, dasatinib post allograft, then interferon
4	11, F	imatinib	No	9.2	Myeloid- BP	ELAM02: Induction, then consolidation 1 + dasatinib, then HD-cytarabine +gemtuzumab ozogamicin	ND	ND	ND	No transplantation	No transplantation	Dead, no remission
5	17, M	imatinib	No	21	Myeloid- BP	fludarabine-HD- cytarabine –liposomal daunorubicin- IT of cytarabine then, fludarabine - HD-cytarabine and dasatinib	No mutation	Complete	0.14	Unrelated donor BM 10/10	busulfan/ cyclophosphamide /ATG	Alive (4 years post- transplant)
6	14, F	hydroxyurea, imatinib	Yes*	11.7	CML-AP	Switch to dasatinib	No mutation	Minor	5.2	Genoid, BM	cyclophosphamide / busulfan	Alive (4 years post- transplant)
7	14, M	imatinib	Yes*	8.5	Lymphoid- BP	dasatinib	T315I, E255K	Failure	>1	Unrelated donor, PB 10/10	MD	Dead, relapse, nilotinib, then ponatinib post allograft
8	9, M	imatinib	No	4.1	Lymphoid- BP	dasatinib alone, then induction according to EsPhALL with dasatinib	ND	Complete	0.13	Unrelated donor BM 10/10	TBI/etoposide/ cyclophosphamide	Alive (4 years post- transplant), dasatinib (6 months) post allograft
9	9, M	imatinib	No	5.4	Lymphoid- BP	Dasatinib, then ALL11 protocol with dasatinib	T315I	Complete	0.016	Genoid, BM	TBI/etoposide/ cyclophosphamide	Alive, ponatinib post allograft. Relapse: ALL protocol+ ponatinib. Reject of second transplant. Waiting for a third transplant.
10	6, M	hydroxyurea, imatinib	No	31.9	Lymphoid- BP	Induction FRALLE B1+dasatinib/ EsPhALL phase 1b, bloc HR1 with dasatinib	No mutation	Complete	0.22	Unrelated donor, 10/10	TBI/etoposide/ATG	Alive (2 years post- transplant)
11	13, F	imatinib	No	5	CML-AP, lymphoid- BP	<b>CML-AP:</b> dasatinib <b>Lymphoid-BP:</b> ALL-BFM2009: 2xvincristine, 2xdaunorubicin, 1x cyclophosphamide, prednisone	E255K, PLOOP	ND	5.14	Genoid, BM	TBI/etoposide	Alive (2 years post- transplant), dasatinib post allograft
12	14, M	hydroxyurea, imatinib	No	19.1	Lymphoid- BP	ALL-BFM2009 + ALLIC-BFM2009 with dasatinib	ND	Complete	0	Genoid, BM	MD	Alive, dasatinib post allograft
13	12, M	hydroxyurea, imatinib, mitoxantrone	Yes**	58.4	Lymphoid- BP	ST JUDE TOTAL XV for ALL with dasatinib	ND	Partial	89	Genoid, BM	MD	Alive
14	11, F	hydroxyurea, imatinib,	Yes**	16.3	Lymphoid- BP	EsPhALL with imatinib	ND	ND	ND	No transplantation	No transplantation	Dead, progressive disease, aspergillosis
15	16, M	imatinib	No	17.8	Myeloid- BP	3 blocks of AML-BFM 2004 + dasatinib	ND	ND	ND	Haploidentical (mother), PB	MD	Dead, progressive disease and infection
16	15, M	hydroxyurea, imatinib,	Yes*	3	Lymphoid- BP	Induction FRALLE B2 + dasatinib, then consolidation Ib EsPhALL with dasatinib	No mutation	Complete	0.4	Genoid, BM	TBI/etoposide	Alive (2 years post- transplant), dasatinib post-allograft (1 year)
17	4, F	hydroxyurea, imatinib,	No	10.9	CML-AP then myeloid-BP	CML-AP: Increased dosage of imatinib (300 to 600 mg/day) + hydroxyurea Myeloid-BP: AML-BFM+imatinib	No mutation	ND	ND	No transplantation	No transplantation	Dead, progressive disease and opportunistic infection
18	15, M	hydroxyurea, imatinib,	No	18.1	CML-AP	Increased dosage of imatinib (300 to 500 mg/day)	ND	Partial	23	Genoid, BM	MD	Dead, post-transplant complication
19	11, M	imatinib	No	4.9	Lymphoid- BP	ALLIC-BFM2009 Ph <sup>+</sup> + imatinib	T315I	Complete	0	Genoid, PB	MD	Alive

Table 2. Summary table of chronic phase and CML-AP or CML-BP. TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor; AP, accelerated phase; BP, blastic phase; m, months; Ys, years; KD, kinase domain; CR, cytogenetic response; MR, molecular response; HSCT, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation; M, male; F, female; CNS, central nervous system; IT, intrathecal; TIT, triple intrathecal; HD, high-dose; LD, low dose; TBI, total body irradiation; ATG, anti-thymocyte globulin; BM, bone marrow, PB, peripheral blood; ND, not done; MD, missing data. \*: for intolerance, \*\*: for inadequate compliance. Interval \*\*: Interval from CP to transformation.