

Advances in Blood Cancers: Making NHL & CLL Treatment Decisions

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Indolent or Slow-Growing Subtypes of Lymphoma and Leukemia

- Follicular lymphoma (FL)
- Chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL)
- Small cell lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL)
- May not need treatment right away

Aggressive Lymphomas

- Typically need to be treated immediately
- Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma
 - Most common type

3

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Asking Questions- Communicating With Your Healthcare Team

- Interact with nurse or nurse practitioner
- Email questions to the doctor or leave a voicemail message
- Set up time to speak by phone or email the nurse, social worker, or other member of the healthcare team

4

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Questions to Ask Your Healthcare Team

- What subtype of NHL do I have?
 - Do I have an aggressive or a chronic (slow-growing) disease?
- CLL Patients:
 - Ask about chromosomal abnormalities
- Are clinical trials an option?
- What are the possible side effects from treatment?
- How will I know if treatment is working?

5

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Clinical Trials

- Use a new therapy not yet widely available or a new use for an already approved therapy
- May be appropriate for all patients
- Compare new treatments with standard treatments to find out which one works better and/or has fewer side effects
- There are risks and benefits in standard treatment and in clinical trials
- Current standard of care treatments were once clinical trial treatments

6

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Communicating With Your Healthcare Team

- Ask for specific diagnosis
 - Stage
 - Other clinical factors
- Ask about treatment options
- Describe your needs and how you are feeling
- Inform your doctor about your side effects
- Identify what information is important to you

7

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Communicating With Your Healthcare Team

- Seek a second opinion
- Ask questions
- Take notes
- Ask about recording conversations
- Request additional resources for information
- Bring a family member or friend to appointments

8

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Talk to an LLS Information Specialist About

- Treatment side effects
- Choosing doctors and treatment centers
- Researching and understanding your diagnosis
- Evaluating your treatment options
- Organizing medical records
- Handling insurance and finances
- Talking to others about cancer

9

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**For more information on disease and treatment,
financial assistance and support, contact an
Information Specialist at**

www.LLS.org/NHLCLLdecisions

or

(800) 955-4572

10

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