

An Interview With
Rebecca Elstrom, MD

**Advances in Blood Cancers:
Update on Treatment for NHL and CLL**

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About 5% of CLL patients have a 17p deletion.

Treatment approaches for these patients include alemtuzumab (Campath®).

Grade is an imprecise measurement of how aggressive the lymphoma is.

Stage refers to where in the body the lymphoma has spread.

Measuring Treatment Response

NHL

- **CT scans**
- **PET-CT scans**
- **Physical exam & symptoms discussion**

CLL

- **Blood tests & bone marrow biopsy**
- **Sometimes CT scan**
- **Physical exam & symptoms discussion**

Examples of Drug Combinations

CLL

- **FCR—fludarabine, cyclophosphamide and rituximab**

Follicular Lymphoma

- **R-CVP—rituximab, cyclophosphamide, vincristine and prednisone**
- **R-CHOP—rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine (Oncovin®) and prednisone**

Stem Cell Transplantation

Autologous

- **Transplant of one's own stem cells**
- **Patients able to tolerate higher doses of chemotherapy**

Allogeneic

- **Transplant from a donor's stem cells**
- **Patient gets a new immune system that may be more effective at fighting the cancer cells**
- **Higher risk of serious complications or death**
- **Increasing role for reduced-intensity allogeneic stem cell transplant**

Examples of Emerging Therapies

- **PI3 kinase inhibitors**
- **Bruton's tyrosine kinase inhibitors (BTKIs)**
- **Epigenetic targeting agents**
 - **histone deacetylase inhibitors (HDACs)**
 - **methyltransferase inhibitors**
- **Monoclonal antibodies**
- **Radioimmunotherapy**
- **Antibody drug conjugates**

LLS Resources – For More Information

- **Phone: (800) 955-4572**
- **Email: infocenter@LLS.org**
- **Website: www.LLS.org**

Disease information and questions to ask your healthcare providers

- **www.LLS.org/resourcecenter**

Telephone/web education programs

- **www.LLS.org/programs**