

Guidelines developed for perinatal hematologic cancers

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(HealthDay)—Consensus guidelines have been developed for clinical management of hematologic malignancies during the perinatal period, according to a special article published online Nov. 30 in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Noting that the incidence of [hematologic malignancies](#) is increasing as women delay conception, and that a favorable prognosis is contingent on early diagnosis and treatment, Michael Lishner, M.D., from the Meir Medical Center in Kfar Saba, Israel, and colleagues developed guidelines for [clinical management](#) of hematologic malignancies during the [perinatal period](#). A team, which included an experienced hematologist/oncologist; a high-risk obstetrics specialist; a neonatologist; and experienced nurses, social workers, and psychologists, developed these guidelines. The draft was revised until final consensus was reached.

The team reviewed diagnostic and novel therapeutic approaches and integrated new information into treatment protocols. The guidelines relate to diagnostic procedures, chemotherapy use, radiotherapy use, and maternal supportive care. The authors also address perinatal and pediatric aspects of care.

"This consensus summary equips [health care professionals](#) with novel diagnostic and treatment methodologies that aim for optimal treatment of the mother, while protecting fetal and pediatric health," the authors write.

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the biopharmaceutical industry.

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