

High response seen for chemo in seniors with high-risk AML

June 20 2019



(HealthDay)—A substantial proportion of older patients with high-risk

acute myeloid leukemia (AML) treated with chemotherapy are long-term survivors, according to research published online June 7 in *Cancer Medicine*.

Sarah Bertoli, M.D., Ph.D., from the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Toulouse in France, and colleagues conducted a retrospective analysis to assess the characteristics and outcome of [patients](#) aged 60 to 75 years with secondary or therapy-related AML. A total of 218 patients fulfilled the liposomal encapsulation of cytarabine and daunorubicin (CPX-351) study criteria; of these, 83 percent received antileukemic treatment with [intensive chemotherapy](#) (121 patients) or hypomethylating agents (HMA; 60 patients).

The researchers found that the complete response rate was 69 percent for chemotherapy-treated patients and median overall survival was 11 months. Three- and five-year overall survival rates were 21 and 17 percent, respectively. The complete response rate was 15 percent for HMA-treated patients, while median overall survival was 11 months; the three- and five-year overall survival rates were 15 and 2 percent, respectively.

"These results compare favorably with the control [chemotherapy](#) arm of the CPX-351 trial which consisted of three daily doses of daunorubicin 60 mg/m² and seven daily doses of cytarabine 100 mg/m²," the authors write. "This schema is considered as the standard of care according to current guidelines."

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the [pharmaceutical industry](#).

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Citation: High response seen for chemo in seniors with high-risk AML (2019, June 20) retrieved 9 September 2024 from

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