# Challenges in the diagnosis, staging, and clinical work-up of Waldenström's macroglobulinemia: A practical guide to current best practice

Monday, November 9, 2020 | 17:00–18:30 (CET)



# Welcome and introductions

Chair: Christian Buske



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- Zanubrutinib is not approved for use outside the United States and China. Zanubrutinib is not approved for the treatment of Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.



### Housekeeping



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Please use the Q&A function throughout the meeting to submit questions you wish to ask the speaker panel

A post-meeting survey will be shared at the end of the webinar; we would greatly appreciate your feedback



### Aims of the webinar



To showcase the BeiGeneius webinar series as a platform for learning and exchange between hemato-oncologists

To provide a practical overview of the latest developments and best practice in the diagnosis, staging, and clinical work-up of WM



To identify and address key clinical challenges in the diagnosis and management of patients with WM



### **Introducing the speakers**



**Professor Christian Buske** University Hospital of Ulm, Germany



**Dr. Roger Owen** St James's Institute of Oncology, UK



**Dr. Alessandra Tedeschi** *Niguarda Cancer Center, Italy* 



### **Disclosures**

- Honoraria: Roche, Janssen, BeiGene, Celltrion, Pfizer, AbbVie
- Research funding: Roche, Janssen, Celltrion, AbbVie, Bayer, MSD



### Agenda

**17:00** Welcome and introductions *Christian Buske* 

- **17:10** What are the diagnostic considerations and clinical features for patients presenting with WM symptoms? *Roger Owen*
- **17:30** Diagnosing WM: A patient's journey Alessandra Tedeschi

Should all patients undergo mutation analysis of MYD88 and CXCR4 as part of the WM diagnostic work-up?

**17:50** Moderator: Roger Owen For: Alessandra Tedeschi | Against: Christian Buske

Talk to the experts: What challenges do you face in diagnosing WM?

**18:05** Moderator: Christian Buske Panel: All





CXCR4, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

## A guide to the meeting platform and live polling function

Please exit the full screen view to participate in the Q&A and live polling.

#### **Q&A** function:

- Please enter your questions in the Q&A submission box
- Because of the volume of questions expected today, some questions received might not be answered during the session

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- When an audience poll is active, please answer the questions in the poll section
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Do you have a question? Ask us!
Write your question here:
SUBMIT

The next poll is underway. As soon as the activity is active, you'll see it on the screen here.

You can respond once



What are the diagnostic considerations and clinical features for patients presenting with WM symptoms?

Roger Owen



WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

# Waldenstrom macroglobulinaemia: diagnostic considerations and clinical features

Roger G Owen St James's Institute of Oncology, Leeds, UK.





### **Disclosures**

- AstraZeneca honoraria
- BeiGene honoraria, advisory board
- Celgene honoraria
- Janssen honoraria, advisory board

### What is Waldenström's macroglobulinemia?

- IgM M protein or paraprotein
- Bone marrow infiltration by
  lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma





Incipient myelomatosis or "essential" hyperglobulinemia with fibrinogenopenia — a new syndrome? J Waldenström. Acta Med Scand 1944; 117 (3–4): 216–247.



### Plasma cell differentiation in WM



### **B-cell component**

- Symptoms related to tumor bulk
- Anemia
- B symptoms
- Lymph nodes
- Spleen

### Plasma cell component

- Symptoms attributable to M protein
- Hyperviscosity syndrome
- Neuropathy
- Hemolytic anemia
- Cryoglobulinemia
- Immunodeficiency



SPECIAL SECTION REPORTS FROM THE 7TH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON WALDENSTRÖM'S MACROGLOBULINEMIA; AUGUST 23-26, 2012; NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND: IWWM 2012 PROCEEDINGS | VOLUME 13, ISSUE 2, P211-213, APRIL 01, 2013

Immunoglobulin M Concentration in Waldenström Macroglobulinemia: Correlation With Bone Marrow B Cells and Plasma Cells

Ruth M. de Tute • Andy C. Rawstron • Roger G. Owen 2

Published: March 25, 2013 • DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clml.2013.02.018

Bone-marrow plasma cell burden correlates with IgM paraprotein concentration in Waldenström macroglobulinaemia

Sant-Rayn Pasricha<sup>1, 2</sup>, Surender K Juneja<sup>1, 2, 3</sup>, David A Westerman<sup>2, 3</sup>, Neil A Came<sup>1, 2, 3</sup>

Journal of Clinical Pathology

### WHO: Concept of distinct clinicopathological entities



- Morphology
- Immunophenotype
- Genotype
- Clinical syndrome



### **Blood morphology**

- Anemia
- Film can be normal
- Rouleaux
- Cold agglutination
- Circulating cells



























Multiparameter flow cytometry for the identification of the Waldenström's clone in IgM-MGUS and Waldenström's Macroglobulinemia: new criteria for differential diagnosis and risk stratification

B Paiva<sup>1,2</sup>, MC Montes<sup>1</sup>, R García-Sanz<sup>1,2</sup>, EM Ocio<sup>1,2</sup>, J Alonso<sup>1</sup>, N de las Heras<sup>3</sup>, F Escalante<sup>3</sup>, R Cuello<sup>4</sup>, AG de Coca<sup>4</sup>, J Galende<sup>5</sup>, J Hernández<sup>6</sup>, M Sierra<sup>7</sup>, A Martin<sup>1</sup>, E Pardal<sup>8</sup>, A Bárez<sup>9</sup>, J Alonso<sup>10</sup>, L Suarez<sup>11</sup>, TJ González-López<sup>12</sup>, JJ Perez<sup>1</sup>, A Orfao<sup>2,13</sup>, M-B Vidríales<sup>1,2</sup> and JF San Miguel<sup>1,2</sup>



WM B-cells: CD22 (+wk) CD25+ CD27+ IgM+ CD305wk/-

IgM, immunoglobulin M; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance; wk, weak; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia. Paiva B *et al. Leukemia* 2014; 28 (1): 166–173.

#### LYMPHOID NEOPLASIA

MYD88 L265P in Waldenström macroglobulinemia, immunoglobulin M monoclonal gammopathy, and other B-cell lymphoproliferative disorders using conventional and quantitative allele-specific polymerase chain reaction





**ORIGINAL ARTICLE** 

High prevalence of oncogenic *MYD88* and *CD79B* mutations in diffuse large B-cell lymphomas presenting at immune-privileged sites



\*\*\*P<0.001 by Fisher's exact test.

*CD79B*, cluster of differentiation 79B gene; CNS, central nervous system; GI, gastrointestinal; *MYD88*, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene. Kraan W *et al. Blood Cancer J* 2013; 3 (9): e139.

#### LYMPHOID NEOPLASIA

#### The genomic landscape of Waldenström macroglobulinemia is characterized by highly recurring MYD88 and WHIM-like CXCR4 mutations, and small somatic deletions associated with B-cell lymphomagenesis

Zachary R. Hunter,<sup>1,2</sup> Lian Xu,<sup>1</sup> Guang Yang,<sup>1</sup> Yangsheng Zhou,<sup>1</sup> Xia Liu,<sup>1</sup> Yang Cao,<sup>1</sup> Robert J. Manning,<sup>1</sup> Christina Tripsas,<sup>1</sup> Christopher J. Patterson,<sup>1</sup> Patricia Sheehy,<sup>1</sup> and Steven P. Treon<sup>1,3</sup>



ARID1A, AT-rich interactive domain–containing protein 1A gene; *CD79B*, cluster of differentiation 79B gene; *CXCR4*, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; *MAP2*, microtubule-associated protein 2 gene; *MED23*, mediator complex subunit 23 gene; *MLL2*, histone-lysine N-methyltransferase 2D gene; *MUC16*, mucin 16 gene; *MYBBP1A*, Myb-binding protein 1a gene; *MYD88*, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; *NOTCH2*, neurogenic locus notch homolog protein 2 gene; *RAG2*, recombination activating 2 gene; *SYNE1*, spectrin repeat containing nuclear envelope protein 1 gene; *TP53*, tumor protein p53 gene; *TRAF2*, TNF receptor–associated factor 2 gene; *TRAF3*, TNF receptor–associated factor 3 gene; *TRRAP*, transformation/transcription domain–associated protein gene; WHIM, warts, hypogammaglobulinemia, infection, and myelokathexis. Hunter ZR *et al. Blood* 2014 13; 123 (11): 1637–1646.



### CXCR4: Mutations



- ~40% patients with WM (only MYD88<sup>MUT</sup>)
- MGUS
- C terminus SDF1a (CXCL12) signaling
- WHIM syndrome
- NS/FS mutations
- 'Hotspot' at S338
- Subclonal Multiple mutations in some patients
- Methodology ASO/sorting/NGS

ASO, allele-specific oligonucleotide; CXCR4, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; FS, frameshift; NS, nonsense; NGS, next-generation sequencing; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance; MUT, mutation; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; WHIM, warts, hypogammaglobulinemia, infection, and myelokathexis; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia. Hunter ZR et al. Blood 2014 13; 123 (11): 1637-1646.



### What about IgM myeloma?



- No B-cell component
- Plasma cells have an abnormal phenotype, typically: CD19<sup>-</sup> CD45<sup>-</sup> CD56<sup>-</sup> CD117<sup>-</sup>
- High incidence of *IGH* translocations, particularly the t(11;14)
- Poor outcome
- Absence of MYD88<sup>L265P</sup>











### Key diagnostic assessments for WM

- Blood count, chemistry, LDH, β2-microglobulin
- Plasma viscosity
- M protein quantitation, uninvolved Ig, sFLC
- Tetanus, pneumococcal, haemophilus titers
- Hepatitis B, hepatitis C, HIV
- DAT
- MAG / cold agglutinins / cryoglobulin, according to history, etc.
- BM aspirate and trephine flow cytometry, ASO PCR for *MYD88*<sup>L265P</sup> (NGS coming!)
- CT pre-RX / PET-suspected transformation

ASO PCR, allele-specific oligonucleotide polymerase chain reaction; BM, bone marrow; CT, computed tomography; DAT, direct antiglobulin test; Ig, immunoglobulin; LDH, lactate dehydrogenase; MAG, myelin-associated glycoprotein; *MYD88*, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; NGS, next-generation sequencing; PET, positron emission tomography; RX, rotating X-ray; sFLC, serum free light chain; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

### **Classification of WM and IgM-related disorders**

	IgM	Bone marrow	Symptoms
Symptomatic WM	Yes	Yes	Yes
Asymptomatic WM	Yes	Yes	No
IgM-MGUS	Yes	No	No
IgM-related disorders	Yes	No	Yes

IgM, immunoglobulin M; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia. Owen RG *et al. Semin Oncol* 2003; 30 (2): 110–115.



### **IgM-related disorders**

- Anti-MAG peripheral neuropathy
- Cold agglutinin disease
- Cryoglobulinemia
- Amyloidosis
- Schnitzler syndrome
- Acquired vWD
- MGRS





IgM, immunoglobulin M; MAG, myelin-associated glycoprotein; MGRS, monoclonal gammopathy of renal significance; vWD, von Willebrand disease.

### **International Prognostic Scoring System for WM**



- Age >65
- Hb ≤11.5 g/dL
- Platelets  $\leq 100 \times 10^{9}/L$
- β2M >3 mg/L
- M protein >7.0 g/L

0 or 1 (except age) = low risk Age or 2 = intermediate risk  $\geq$ 3 = high risk



β2M, β2–microglobulin; Hb, hemoglobin; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia. Morel P *et al. Blood* 2009; 113 (18): 4163–4170. Impact of genomics on outcome





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### **Executive summary**

- WM is a B-cell disorder characterized by plasma cell differentiation, and clinical features can be considered in this context
- *MYD88*<sup>L265P</sup> and WM-specific B-cell phenotype allows for a definitive pathological diagnosis




## Diagnosing WM: A patient's journey

Alessandra Tedeschi



WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

## **Disclosures**

• Consulting services for AbbVie, AstraZeneca, BeiGene and Janssen-Cillag SpA



## **Initial case presentation**

#### **Patient characteristics**

- 64-year-old male
- Good overall health, no comorbidities
- No medications
- No known family history of B-cell lymphoproliferative disorders
- Routine blood test performed before a surgical intervention





## **Initial case presentation**

#### **Patient characteristics**

- 64-year-old male ۲
- Good overall health, no comorbidities
- No medications
- No known family history of B-cell lymphoproliferative disorders
- Routine blood test performed ٠ before a surgical intervention

Laboratory studies	
Hemoglobin:	11.6 g/dL
Platelets:	230 × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L
WBC:	4 × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L
PMN:	65%
Serum creatinine:	1.2 mg/dL
LFTs:	Normal
Serum protein electrophoresis:	Monoclonal component in γ region (M spike 0.4 g/dL)
Immunofixation:	IgM kappa



IgM, immunoglobulin M; LFT, liver function test; PMN, polymorphonuclear leukocytes; WBC, white blood cells.

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## Which tests are essential at this point?





IgM quantitative test, and serum viscosity, FLC ratio



IgM quantitative test, 24h urine collection for protein electrophoresis, monoclonal light chains in the urine





## Which tests are essential at this point?



## According to guidelines, when would you perform a bone marrow evaluation in an asymptomatic patient?



The need for bone marrow evaluation in asymptomatic patients is controversial (proposed when IgM >10 g/L)



In all patients with an IgM monoclonal component



Only if IgM >30 g/L







## According to guidelines, when would you perform a bone marrow evaluation in an asymptomatic patient?



## Bone marrow evaluation in patients with IgM paraprotein

**YES** in case of:

- Symptomatic patients
- Cytopenias, lymphadenopathy, or splenomegaly
- Suspected IgM-related syndrome, such as peripheral neuropathy, CHAD, or AL

Its value in the assessment of asymptomatic individuals with an IgM paraprotein is not established but **an arbitrary IgM monoclonal protein threshold of 10 g/L has been proposed in some guidelines**<sup>1</sup>

87 asymptomatic patients with an IgM M protein <10 g/L  $\,^2$ 

- 65 patients (75%) IgM MGUS <sup>2</sup>
- 22 (25%) asymptomatic WM <sup>2</sup>

AL, amyloidosis, light chain; CHAD, cold hemagglutinin disease; IgM, immunoglobulin M; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

1. Owen RG et al. Br J Haematol 2014; 165 (3): 316–333. 2. Varettoni M et al. Br J Haematol 2015; 168 (2): 301–313.

Bone marrow evaluation was not performed. What is the patient's diagnosis?

A IgM MGUS

**B** Asymptomatic WM

**C** IgM-related disorder

IgM, immunoglobulin M; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.



### Bone marrow evaluation was not performed. What is the patient's diagnosis?



## **Definitions of IgM-related phenomena**

	lgM monoclonal protein	Bone marrow infiltration	Symptoms attributed to IgM*	Symptoms attributed to tumor infiltration <sup>†</sup>
MGUS	+	-	-	-
IgM-related disorders	+	_	+	-
WM asymptomatic	+	+	-	-
WM symptomatic	+	+	+	+

\*Neuropathy, cold agglutinin-related anemia, autoimmune thrombocytopenia, cryoglobulinemia, amyloidosis. <sup>†</sup>Systemic symptoms, cytopenia, lymphoadenopathy, hepatosplenomegaly. IgM, immunoglobulin M; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia. Owen RG *et al. Semin Oncol* 2003; 30 (2): 110–115.

# Patient follow-up: 64-year-old asymptomatic patient with IgM MGUS (M spike 0.4 g/dL)



No need for further follow-up



Follow up with laboratory studies every 4 months



Follow up with laboratory studies up to 6 months then annually



IgM, immunoglobulin M; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance.



## Patient follow-up: 64-year-old asymptomatic patient with IgM MGUS (M spike 0.4 g/dL)



## After 3 years

#### **Patient characteristics**

- 67-year-old male
- Asymptomatic

#### Laboratory studies

Hemoglobin:	10.8 g/dL
Platelets:	180 × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L
WBC:	5.7 × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L
PMN:	72%
Serum creatinine:	1.19 mg/dL
LFTs:	Normal
M spike:	2.1 g/dL
IgM:	1980 mg/dL
24h urinary protein:	Normal
Bence Jones K:	Positive



IgM, immunoglobulin M; LFT, liver function test; PMN, polymorphonuclear leukocytes; WBC, white blood cells.

#### **Bone marrow evaluation:**

- No evidence of bone marrow infiltration
- 5% B-cell clonal population CD19+ CD22+ smlgM kappa
- MYD88 mutated

## What is the patient's diagnosis?



- **B** Asymptomatic WM with mutated *MYD88*
- **C** IgM-related disorder with mutated *MYD88*



IgM, immunoglobulin M; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance; smIgM, surface membrane immunoglobulin M; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.



## What is the patient's diagnosis?



## MYD88 in IgM MGUS

#### MYD88<sup>L256P</sup> in WM and IgM MGUS

		Method	Tissue	WM	IgM MGUS
Treon <sup>2</sup>		WGS/Sanger	BM CD19+	91%	10%
Xu <sup>3</sup>		AS-PCR	BM CD19+	93%	56%
Gachard <sup>4</sup>	•	PCR	BM	67%	
Varettoni <sup>5</sup>	••	AS-PCR	BM CD19+	100%	47%
Landgren <sup>6</sup>		Sanger	BM		54%
Jiménez <sup>7</sup>	<b>.</b>	AS-PCR	BM	86%	87%

#### bjh research paper

A risk-stratification model based on the initial concentration of the serum monoclonal protein and *MYD88* mutation status identifies a subset of patients with IgM monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance at high risk of progression to Waldenström macroglobulinaemia or other lymphoproliferative disorders



AS-PCR, allele-specific polymerase chain reaction; BM, bone marrow; IgM, immunoglobulin M; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance;

MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; PCR, polymerase chain reaction; WGS, whole genome sequencing; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

- 1. Varettoni M et al. Blood 2019; 134: 1539; 2. Treon S et al. N Engl J Med 2012; 367: 826–833; 3. Xu L et al. Blood 2013; 121: 2051–2058; 4. Gachard N et al. Leukemia 2013; 27: 183–189;
- 5. Varettoni M et al. Blood 2013; 121 :2522–2528; 6. Landgren O & Staudt L. N Engl J Med 2012; 367: 2255–2257; 7. Jiménez C et al. Leukemia 2013; 27: 1722–1728.

## After 16 months

#### **Patient characteristics**

- 69-year-old male
- Complains of fatigue

#### **Physical examination**

- No lymphadenopathies
- Splenomegaly

#### Abdomen ultrasound

- Confirmed splenomegaly of 17 cm
- No adenopathies
- Liver: Normal

#### Laboratory studies

Hemoglobin:	10.6 g/dL
Platelets:	180 × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L
WBC:	5.7 × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L
PMN:	72%
Serum creatinine:	1.19 mg/dL
LFTs:	Normal
M spike:	2.4 g/dL
IgM:	2300 mg/dL
24h urinary protein:	Normal
Bence Jones K:	Positive





IgM, immunoglobulin M; LFT, liver function test; PMN, polymorphonuclear leukocytes; WBC, white blood cells.

## **Differential diagnosis**

- Small lymphocytic lymphoma
- Follicular lymphoma
- Mantle cell lymphoma
- Marginal zone lymphoma
- Multiple myeloma

## **Bone marrow evaluation: Immunophenotype**

Patient			DD		
CD19+					
CD22 <sup>low+</sup>			Antigen	WM B Cell	MZL
	CLL/SI	LL:	CD5		
CD20*		CD5+	<u>CD10</u>		
CD25 <sup>+</sup>		CD23+	<u>CD11C</u>		+/-
			<u>CD19</u>	++	++
CD27''			<u>CD20</u>	++	++
CD5 <sup>-</sup>	MCL:	CD5 <sup>+</sup>	<u>CD22</u>	Low+	Low+
			<u>CD23</u>	+/-	+/-
CD23	FI ·	CD10+	<u>CD25</u>	+	+/-
CD10 <sup>-</sup>		ODIO	<u>CD27</u>	+/-	
			<u>CD38</u>	_/+	_/+
CDTIC			<u>CD305</u>		+
CD38 <sup>-/+</sup>			SIG	+	+
slgM <sup>bright</sup>					

CLL, chronic lymphocytic leukemia; DD, differential diagnosis; FL, follicular lymphoma; MCL, mantle cell lymphoma; MZL, marginal zone lymphoma; SLL, small lymphocytic lymphoma; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.



## **Bone marrow evaluation: Histology**







## **Bone marrow evaluation: Histology**















## Conclusion



Mature B-cell lymphoproliferative disorder – small lymphocytes with minimal plasmacytic differentiation (*MYD88* mutated)

CD19 <sup>+</sup> CD22 <sup>low+</sup> CD20 <sup>+</sup> CD25 <sup>+</sup>	MZL? WM?
CD27 <sup>+/-</sup> CD5 <sup>-</sup> CD23 <sup>-</sup> CD10 <sup>-</sup>	<b>Splenomegaly:</b> WM: 10%–20% MZL: 80%–100% in splenic MZL
CD11C <sup>-</sup> CD38 <sup>-/+</sup> slgM <sup>bright</sup>	

MYD88<sup>mut</sup>

MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; MZL, marginal zone lymphoma; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

### Bone marrow evaluation: MYD88 confirmed to be positive

MYD88 Iymphoi	<sup>L265P</sup> mutation in d B malignancies
WM	90%–100%
lgM-MGUS	41%–56%
SMZL	7%–13%
MALT	9%
CLL	3%–10%
ABC-DLBCL	29%

ABC-DLBCL, activated B-cell-like diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; CLL, chronic lymphocytic leukemia; IgM, immunoglobulin M; MALT, mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; SMZL, splenic marginal zone lymphoma; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

Treon SP et al. N Engl J Med 2012; 367 (9): 826-833. Landgren O & Tageja N. Leukemia 2014; 28: 1799-1803. Dimopoulos MA et al. Blood 2019; 134 (23): 2022-2035.

## After 16 months

#### **Patient characteristics**

- 69-year-old male
- Complains of fatigue
- Splenomegaly (17 cm)
- No adenopathies
- Mature B-cell lymphoproliferative disorder
  - Small lymphocytes with minimal plasmacytic differentiation
  - MYD88 mutated

#### Laboratory studies

Hemoglobin:	10.6 g/dL
Platelets:	180 × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L
WBC:	5.7 × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L
PMN:	72%
Serum creatinine:	1.19 mg/dL
LFTs:	Normal
M spike:	2.8 g/dL
IgM:	1800 mg/dL
24h urinary protein:	Normal
Bence Jones K:	Positive



IgM, immunoglobulin M; LFT, liver function test; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; PMN, polymorphonuclear leukocytes; WBC, white blood cells.

## **Patient follow-up**



Second bone marrow evaluation to achieve a better diagnosis



Start treatment with immunochemotherapy



Watch and wait, follow-up every 3–4 months





## **Patient follow-up**



## After 12 months

#### **Patient characteristics**

- 70-year-old male
- Fatigue increased, sometimes shortness of breath

#### **Physical examination**

- Two small palpable adenopathies of about 2 cm LC
- Splenomegaly

#### Abdomen ultrasound

- Splenomegaly of 18 cm
- Liver: Normal

#### Laboratory studies

Hemoglobin:	8.9 g/dL
Platelets:	120 × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L
WBC:	3.7 × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L
PMN:	62%
Serum creatinine:	1.3 mg/dL
LFTs:	Normal
M spike:	4.2 g/dL
IgM:	3220 mg/dL
24h urinary protein:	Normal
Bence Jones K:	Positive





Considering the possibility of BTKi treatment in WM diagnosis needed Bone marrow and lymph node histology

BTKi, Bruton tyrosine kinase inhibitor; IgM, immunoglobulin M; LC, Langerhans cells; LFT, liver function test; PMN, polymorphonuclear leukocytes; WBC, white blood cells.

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## **Bone marrow evaluation: Histology**









## Lymph node: Histology











## Conclusion

- Waldenström's macroglobulinemia
- Symptomatic, in need of treatment for anemia and splenomegaly



Should all patients undergo mutation analysis of *MYD88* and *CXCR4* as part of the WM diagnostic work-up?

Moderator: Roger Owen For: Alessandra Tedeschi | Against: Christian Buske



CXCR4, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

Should all patients undergo mutation analysis of *MYD88* and *CXCR4* as part of the WM diagnostic work-up?

B No	B No	B No	Α	Yes
B NO	BNO	BNO		No
			В	ΝΟ


# Should all patients undergo mutation analysis of *MYD88* and *CXCR4* as part of the WM diagnostic work-up?



### Should all patients undergo mutation analysis of *MYD88* and *CXCR4* as part of the WM diagnostic work-up?

For: Dr. Alessandra Tedeschi



### Mutations occur in a very high proportion of patients with WM

• *MYD88* and *CXCR4* variants are the most frequent somatic mutations identified in WM



*CXCR4*, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; *MYD88*, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia. Hunter ZR *et al. Blood* 2014; 123 (11): 1637–1646.

### *MYD88*<sup>L265P</sup> may support a WM diagnosis

 MYD88<sup>L265P</sup> is much more frequent in WM than in other B-cell malignancies that may share a similar phenotype



Reported prevalence of *MYD88*<sup>L265P</sup>

Adapted from Dimopoulos et al. Blood 2019.

IgM, immunoglobulin M; MCL, mantle cell lymphoma; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance; *MYD88*, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; SMZL, splenic marginal zone lymphoma; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia. Dimopoulos MA *et al. Blood* 2019; 134 (23): 2022–2035.



### Clinical impact of CXCR4<sup>MUT</sup>

- Higher BM disease burden
- Higher serum IgM level

- Lower rates of extramedullary disease
- Symptomatic disease at presentation



BM, bone marrow; CI, confidence interval; *CXCR4*, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; FS, frameshift; IgM, immunoglobulin M; MUT, mutation; OR, odds ratio of presenting with hyperviscosity; WT, wild-type.

Treon SP et al. Blood 2014;123: 2791–2796. Gustine et al. Br J Haematol 2017; 177: 717–725.



# **MYD88** and **CXCR4** status are relevant to treatment outcomes with ibrutinib monotherapy

#### Response to ibrutinib monotherapy in R/R (median: 19.1 months of treatment)<sup>1</sup>

	MYD88 <sup>L265P</sup> CXCR4 <sup>WT</sup>	MYD88 <sup>L265P</sup> CXCR4 <sup>WHIM</sup>	MYD88 <sup>wt</sup> CXCR4 <sup>wt</sup>	<i>P-</i> value
Ν	34	21	7	
Overall RR	100%	85.7%	71.4%	<0.01
Major RR	91.2%	61.9%	28.6%	<0.01



#### Progression-free survival

CXCR4, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; PFS, progression-free survival;

RR, response rate; R/R, relapsed/refractory; WHIM, warts, hypogammaglobulinemia, infection, and myelokathexis; WT, wild-type.

1. Treon SP et al. N Engl J Med 2015; 372 (15): 1430–1440.



### Survival outcomes according to CXCR4 mutational status

Ibrutinib monotherapy R/R PFS Long-term follow-up (median: 59 months)<sup>1</sup>



#### Bendamustine-rituximab first line PFS<sup>2</sup>



### OS with bortezomib-based treatment<sup>3</sup>



CXCR4, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; MUT, mutation; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; R/R, relapsed/refractory; WT, wild-type.

1. Treon SP et al. J Clin Oncol 2020; Epub ahead of print (DOI: 10.1200/JCO.20.00555). 2. Laribi K et al. Br J Haematol 2019; 186 (1): 146–149.

3. Sklavenitis-Pistofidis R et al. Blood 2018; 132 (24): 2608–2612.

#### Phase 3 trial of ibrutinib plus rituximab

PFS untreated and R/R



*CXCR4*, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; *MYD88*, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; PFS, progression-free survival; R/R, relapsed/refractory; RTX, randomized treatment; WHIM, warts, hypogammaglobulinemia, infection, and myelokathexis; WT, wild-type. Dimopoulos MA *et al. N Engl J Med* 2018; 378 (25): 2399–2410.



# ASPEN: A global Phase 3 study of zanubrutinib\* vs. ibrutinib in WM Cohort 2 *MYD88*<sup>WT</sup>

		Characteristic	Total (N=26)	
	Arm C Zanubrutinib 160 mg BID	Median age, years (range)	72	
MYD88 <sup>WT</sup> patients with WM (N=26)		Treatment naive, n (%) R/R, n (%) Median no. of prior Tx, (range)	5 (19.2) 21 (80.8) 1 (1–5)	
	until progression	<i>MYD88</i> <sup>WT</sup> / <i>CXCR4</i> <sup>WT</sup> , n (%)	23 (88.5%)	
Best response, n (%)		Total (N=26)		
Overall RR		21 (80.8)		
Major RR (PR or better)		13 (50.0)		
VGPR		7 (26.9)		
PR		6 (23.1)		
Minor response		8 (30.8)		
Stable disease / progre	ssive disease	4 (15.4) / 1 (3.8)		
Time to first major respons	se (≥PR), median (range), month	2.9 (1.9–16.1)		
Study follow-up time, med	lian (range) months	17.9 (2.3–27.8)		

\*Zanubrutinib is not approved for the treatment of patients with Waldenström's macroglobulinemia. Zanubrutinib is approved by the FDA for use in the US for the treatment of adult patients with mantle cell lymphoma who have received at least one prior therapy and is marketed in the US under the brand name BRUKINSA<sup>™</sup>. This indication is approved under accelerated approval based on overall response rate. Continued approval for this indication may be contingent upon verification and description of clinical benefit in a confirmatory trial. BID, twice daily; *CXCR4*, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; *MYD88*, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; PR, partial response; RR, response rate; R/R, relapsed/refractory; VGPR, very good partial response; Tx, treatment; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia; WT, wild-type. Dimopoulos M *et al. EHA Library* 2020; Abstract EP1180, available at library.ehaweb.org/eha/2020/eha25th/293669. Eposter available at beigenemedical.eu/publications

### MYD88 and CXCR4 status can guide treatment decisions



Benda-R, bendamustine and rituximab; BTK-I, Bruton tyrosine kinase inhibitor; CAGG, cold agglutinemia; CRYOS, cryoglobulinemia; *CXCR4*, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; DRC, dexamethasone, rituximab, and cyclophosphamide; HV, hyperviscosity; IgM, immunoglobulin M, Mut, mutation; *MYD88*, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; PI, proteasome inhibitor; PN, peripheral neuropathy; WT, wild-type. Treon SP *et al. J Clin Oncol* 2020; 38 (11): 1198–1208.



### Summary

All patients **should** undergo mutation analysis of *MYD88* and *CXCR4* 

The mutations are biologically relevant

- Affect patient presentation
- $_{\circ}~$  Can influence patient responses to treatment
- $_{\circ}~$  Can guide treatment decisions



### WHEN YOU KNOW BETTER YOU DO BETTER !!!

CXCR4, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene.



### Should all patients undergo mutation analysis of *MYD88* and *CXCR4* as part of the WM diagnostic work-up?

Against: Professor Christian Buske



### The CXCR4 mutational landscape is complex

- In a cohort of 98 patients with WM, 17 CXCR4 mutations were identified, of which 12 were novel
- A clinician might see a new *CXCR4* mutation with every diagnosis



CXCR4, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia. Poulain S *et al. Clin Cancer Res* 2016; 22 (6): 1480–1488.

### **CXCR4** mutations are difficult to interpret

• The biological implications of many *CXCR4* mutations are unknown



CXCR4, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene. Wescott MP *et al. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2016; 113 (35): 9928–9933.



#### **CXCR4** status has no impact on patient outcomes with some therapies

CXCR4 mutations have no effect on OS

under bortezomib-based treatment<sup>2</sup>

CXCR4 mutational status does not influence PFS with first-line R-bendamustine<sup>1</sup>



CXCR4, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; R, rituximab; WT, wild-type. 1. Laribi K *et al. Br J Haematol* 2019; 186 (1): 146–149. 2. Sklavenitis-Pistofidis R *et al. Blood* 2018; 132 (24): 2608–2612.

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### Mutational testing can be technically challenging

- The optimal initial assay for *MYD88* is AS-PCR on bone marrow aspirates
  - Sanger sequencing or targeted NGS can be used to evaluate for non-L265P *MYD88* mutations
- Selection of CD19+ cells can improve detection rates but is not routinely performed
- Mutated *CXCR4* is subclonal, with highly variable clonality averaging approximately 35%
  - False negative results can occur
  - Ultra-deep NGS or Sanger sequencing may be required



#### Standardization of testing and analysis must come first

 Standard protocols are needed to support clinicians and institutions testing for *MYD88* and *CXCR4* mutations, to avoid mistakes and promote continuity





### Summary

**All patients should not** undergo mutation analysis of *MYD88* and *CXCR4* as part of the WM diagnostic work-up:

- MYD88<sup>L265P</sup> may support a WM diagnosis and should be evaluated
- The argument for CXCR4 analysis is less strong
  - Mutations are highly variable, and their biological implications are unclear at present
  - Effects on treatment outcomes are not consistent across different therapies
  - 。 CXCR4 mutation analysis can be technically challenging
- Clinicians must be supported with standard protocols for mutation testing for both *MYD88* and *CXCR4*



CXCR4, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

Should all patients undergo mutation analysis of *MYD88* and *CXCR4* as part of the WM diagnostic work-up?

Moderator: Roger Owen For: Alessandra Tedeschi | Against: Christian Buske



CXCR4, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; MYD88, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

# Should all patients undergo mutation analysis of *MYD88* and *CXCR4* as part of the WM diagnostic work-up?



# Should all patients undergo mutation analysis of *MYD88* and *CXCR4* as part of the WM diagnostic work-up?



## Talk to the experts: What challenges do you face in diagnosing WM?

Moderator: Christian Buske Panel: All



WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

## Summary

Chair: Christian Buske



### Summary



WM is a B-cell disorder characterized by variable presentation due to involvement of both lymphoid and plasmacytic cell compartments. Histomorphology, immunophenotyping, and *MYD88*<sup>L256P</sup> mutation analysis can enable a definitive diagnosis.<sup>1</sup>



Monoclonal gammopathies are relatively common in older people; MGUS affects up to 3% of individuals aged >50 years.<sup>2</sup> Careful investigation and regular follow-up is required to manage the risk of malignant progression, including progression to WM.



*MYD88* mutation analysis may support diagnostic differentiation and should form part of the WM clinical work-up for all patients; the implications of *CXCR4* testing need further assessment.<sup>1</sup>

*CXCR4*, C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4 gene; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance; *MYD88*, myeloid differentiation primary response 88 gene; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.

1. Kastritis E et al. Ann Oncol 2018; 29 (Suppl 4): iv41-iv50. 2. Kyle RA et al. N Engl J Med 2006; 354 (13): 1362-1369.

Save the date!

Initiation of treatment for Waldenström's macroglobulinemia: Practical guidance for starting treatment and managing complications



Join us in **January 2021** for the second installment in the BeiGeneius webinar series in which we will explore the practical aspects of initiating WM treatment and managing associated complications





### We would appreciate your feedback! Please complete the post-meeting survey.



## Thank you for your attention

