CME article

Diagnosis of chronic myelomonocytic leukaemia (CMML) in adults

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According to World Health Organisation (WHO) classification, myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative neoplasms (MDS/MPN) are a group of disorders with overlapping features of myelodysplasia and myeloproliferation. Among them chronic myelomonocytic leukaemia (CMML) is the most frequent. CMML is a heterogenous disorder with variable clinical presentation, haematological and morphological features varying from prominent myelodysplastic to myeloproliferative features and inherent risk of transforming into acute myeloid leukaemia.

Q1. Which of the following are true regarding diagnosis and classification of CMML?
   A. Peripheral blood monocyte count <1x10⁹/L excludes diagnosis.
   B. Presence of an acquired cytogenetic abnormality is essential for the diagnosis.
   C. Detection of >94% classical monocytes in peripheral blood by flow cytometry supports the diagnosis.
   D. During active autoimmune diseases, monocyte repartitioning by flow cytometry is not reliable.
   E. Subgrouping of CMML is based on the percentage of monoblasts and myeloblasts in peripheral blood and bone marrow.

Q2. Which of the following are considered as high-risk prognostic factors in CMML?
   A. Monosomy 7
   B. ASXL1
   C. -Y
   D. MP - CMML
   E. Red blood cell transfusion dependency

Answer grid

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CME points: 02

The answers and the discussion are given in page 41

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