



BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THE MEDIA

The European Treatment and Outcome Study (EUTOS) for CML

The European LeukemiaNet (ELN) and Novartis have established the European Treatment and Outcome Study (EUTOS) for CML, an initiative designed to help European healthcare professionals to optimize treatment and achieve the best possible outcomes for patients with chronic myeloid leukemia (CML).

EUTOS for CML is essential to maximize the resources available, to share the scientific and clinical knowledge needed to further progress the management of this rare disease, and to achieve a pan-European standard of care in CML.

The goals of EUTOS for CML are to:

- Enhance understanding of the incidence and management of CML
- Improve and standardize evaluation and monitoring of treatments for CML
- Optimize treatment of CML patients across Europe

Building on extensive experience in the treatment of CML, EUTOS for CML will offer physicians the latest resources including professional education, patient information and support, access to reimbursement support services and information on clinical trials with investigational agents and existing therapies in CML. To achieve optimum response to therapy, the EUTOS for CML will also involve laboratory monitoring of key therapeutic parameters using globally standardised methodologies.

EUTOS for CML supports ELN guidelines, issued in 2006, that provide recommendations on the treatment of CML, including the use of imatinib (Glivec[®]), and will provide milestone based funding to the ELN to support the implementation of these guidelines and evaluate outcomes that result from their uptake.

Key activities to be undertaken as part of EUTOS for CML include:

- Rapid expansion of ELN's existing work in CML, including its CML registry, to collect baseline, treatment and outcome data of representative samples of CML patients in European countries. This enhanced bank of real world data will help to measure the clinical effects of implementation of ELN recommendations on the management of CML

- Expanded access to a state-of-the-art clinical support program, including availability of laboratory monitoring of key therapeutic parameters using globally standardized methodologies, for CML patients. This program aims to reshape the European infrastructure and to standardize procedures for the molecular monitoring of CML and will facilitate the investigation of response and acquired resistance to existing treatments for CML, helping to inform therapeutic choices for these patients
- Extended availability of monitoring of the selective tyrosine kinase inhibitor imatinib, to develop a Europe-wide pharmacological monitoring service to optimize therapy with the drug. Data collected during the two year program will be analyzed to investigate the most effective level of blood concentration of imatinib
- Educational initiatives, including a web portal, data publications and presence at selected key scientific congresses, to inform and educate healthcare professionals involved in the management of CML on the activities of EUTOS for CML and to share learnings and best practice

ENDS

The European Treatment and Outcome Study (EUTOS) for CML is founded by Novartis