



STUDIES COORDINATION

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NEWSLETTER 32

May 2009

Dear Friends,

we've just returned home after the XII annual IELSG meeting held in Toronto. This was the first IELSG meeting held outside Europe and we want to thank all who participated and contributed to its success. In particular we want to congratulate Laura Pasqualucci (New York, USA) and Randy Gascoyne (Vancouver, Canada) for their outstanding educational lectures as well as Mary Gospodarowicz, Mary Hooey and Richard Tsang for the excellent organization of the meeting in Toronto.

Here we want to summarise the principal issues that have been addressed during the meeting and discussed during the Board of Directors meeting followed by the IELSG General Assembly on April 25th, 2009.

1. ACCRUAL OF ONGOING STUDIES (Updated at May 14, 2009)

Clinical trials

IELSG 19 *Multicenter randomized trial of chlorambucil versus chlorambucil plus rituximab versus rituximab alone in extranodal marginal zone B-cell lymphoma of MALT:* 392 pts

IELSG 26 *Clinico-pathologic study of primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma:* 68 pts

IELSG 27 *A clinico-pathological phase II study with translational elements to investigate the possible infective causes of MALT lymphoma of the ocular adnexa with particular reference to chlamydia species and the effects of treatment with tetracycline:* 42 pts

Retrospective surveys

IELSG 17 *Multi-institutional retrospective analysis of intravascular lymphomatosis:* 68 pts

IELSG 28 *A retrospective international clinico-pathological study of primary extranodal marginal zone lymphoma of the lung (BALT-lymphoma):* 63 pts

IELSG 29 *A retrospective study on primary bone marrow lymphoma:* 25 pts

IELSG 31 *A retrospective international study of primary extranodal follicular lymphoma:* 71 pts

2. NEW STUDIES

During the meeting it has been decided to open three new studies, namely:

IELSG 30 *A phase II study of R-CHOP with intensive CNS prophylaxis and scrotal irradiation in patients with primary testicular diffuse large B-cell lymphoma*

IELSG 32 *Randomized phase II trial on primary chemotherapy with high-dose methotrexate and high-dose cytarabine with or without thiotepa, and with or without rituximab, followed by brain irradiation vs. high-dose chemotherapy supported by autologous stem cells transplantation for immunocompetent patients with newly diagnosed primary CNS lymphoma*

IELSG 33 *A Prospective observational study of newly diagnosed diffuse large B cell primary breast lymphomas treated with R-CHOP with or without radiotherapy*

Protocols and CRFs were distributed during the meeting but can also be requested via email at ielsg@ticino.com. Accrual for these studies will begin in 2Q/3Q 2009.

3. CLOSED STUDIES

The Board and the Assembly have decided to formally close the IELSG 21 study (*Salvage therapy with Idarubicin in immunocompetent patients with relapsed or refractory primary central nervous system lymphoma*) because of the insufficient accrual and the IELSG 25 Phase II study of *bortezomib* because of completed accrual.

4. PUBLICATIONS

- The following abstracts have been accepted either for oral or poster presentation:

At the EAHP 2008

PRIMARY BONE MARROW LYMPHOMAS (PBML): CLINICAL PRESENTATION, HISTOPATHOLOGICAL FEATURES AND OUTCOME (IELSG #29) M. Rozman, A. Martínez, C. Agostinelli, K. M. Hebeda, E. Matutes, M. Ponzoni, A. Ferreri, C. Campidelli, B. Espinet, G. Perea, A. Acevedo, S. Pileri, A. López-Guillermo, E. Campo, on behalf of the International Extranodal Lymphoma Study Group

At the ASH 2008

RANDOMIZED PHASE II TRIAL ON PRIMARY CHEMOTHERAPY WITH HIGH-DOSE METHOTREXATE ALONE OR ASSOCIATED WITH HIGH-DOSE CYTARABINE FOR PATIENTS WITH PRIMARY CNS LYMPHOMA (IELSG #20 TRIAL): TOLERABILITY, ACTIVITY AND EVENT-FREE SURVIVAL ANALYSIS AJM Ferreri, M Reni, M Foppoli, M Martelli, M Siakantaris, M Frezzato, MG Cabras, A Fabbri, G Corazzelli, F Ilariucci, G Rossi, R Soffietti, C Stelitano, D Vallisa, F Zaja, M Gelemur, GM Aondio, G Aovvisati, M Balzarotti, A Brandes, MJ Costa, H Gomez, A Guarini, G Pinotti, L Rigacci, C Uhlmann, M Angelopoulou, M Tirindelli, V Naso, A Franzin, N Anzalone, M Ponzoni, E Zucca, F Caligaris-Cappio and F Cavalli (oral)

THE IMPACT OF THERAPEUTIC MANAGEMENT AND PROGNOSTIC FACTORS, ON THE OUTCOME OF PRIMARY CUTANEOUS B-CELL LYMPHOMAS (PCBCL) - IELSG 11 STUDY S Cortelazzo, M Mian, M Cantonetti, AH Sarris, A Rossi, A Rambaldi, G Lombardo, M Frontoni, F Pasini, A Ambrosetti, L Devizzi, M Busetto, O Bairey, E Berti, G Martinelli, R Tsang, S Rudoy, R Blum, A Ferreri, G Pinotti, E Pogliani and E Zucca (poster)

At the EHA 2009

SINGLE AGENT BORTEZOMIB IS ACTIVE IN RELAPSED/REFRACTORY MALT LYMPHOMAS. FINAL RESULTS OF AN INTERNATIONAL EXTRANODAL LYMPHOMA STUDY GROUP (IELSG) PHASE II STUDY A. Conconi, G. Martinelli, A. Lopez-Guillermo, P. Zinzani, AJM. Ferreri, L. Rigacci, L. Devizzi, U. Vitolo, S. Luminari, M. Martelli, F. Cavalli, E. Zucca (oral)

CLIFI: A NEW PROGNOSTIC INDEX FOR INDOLENT CUTANEOUS B-CELL LYMPHOMA PROPOSED BY THE INTERNATIONAL EXTRANODAL LYMPHOMA STUDY GROUP (IELSG 11) M. Mian, S. Cortelazzo, M. Federico, S. Luminari, L. Marcheselli, M. Cantonetti, AH. Sarris, A. Rossi, A. Rambaldi, G. Lombardo, M. Frontoni, F. Pasini, L. Devizzi, O. Bairey, M. Busetto, E. Berti, G. Martinelli, R. Tsang, S. Rudoy, R. Blum, A. Ferreri, G. Pinotti, E. Pogliani and E. Zucca (poster)

- The following papers have been accepted for publication:

EARLY STAGE GASTRIC DIFFUSE LARGE B-CELL LYMPHOMAS: RESULTS OF A RANDOMIZED TRIAL COMPARING CHEMOTHERAPY ALONE VERSUS CHEMOTHERAPY + INVOLVED FIELD RADIOTHERAPY G. Martinelli, F. Gigli, L. Calabrese, PF. Ferrucci, E. Zucca, C. Crosta, G. Pruneri, L. Preda, G. Piperno, M. Gospodarowicz, F. Cavalli, H. Moreno Gomez. Leukemia and Lymphoma, in press

PRIMARY FOLLICULAR AND MARGINAL-ZONE LYMPHOMA OF THE BREAST: CLINICAL FEATURES, PROGNOSTIC FACTORS AND OUTCOME. A STUDY BY THE INTERNATIONAL EXTRA-NODAL LYMPHOMA STUDY G. *Martinelli, G. Ryan, J.F. Seymour, L. Nassi, S. Steffanoni, A. Alietti, L. Calabrese, G. Pruneri, L. Santoro, M. Kuper-Hommel, R. Tsang, PL. Zinzani, A. Taghian E. Zucca, F. Cavalli.* *Annals of Oncology* in press

- During the last months the following IELSG papers have been also published: CHLORAMBUCIL VERSUS OBSERVATION AFTER ANTI-HELICOBACTER THERAPY IN GASTRIC MALT LYMPHOMAS: RESULTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL RANDOMISED LY03 TRIAL *Hancock BW, Qian W, Linch D, Delchier JC, Smith P, Jakupovic I, Burton C, Souhami R, Wotherspoon A, Copie-Bergman C, Capella C, Traulle C, Levy M, Cortelazzo S, Ferreri AJ, Ambrosetti A, Pinotti G, Martinelli G, Vitolo U, Cavalli F, Gisselbrecht C, Zucca E.* *British Journal of Haematology* 2009Feb;144(3):367-75

THE ADDITION OF RITUXIMAB TO ANTHRACYCLINE-BASED CHEMOTHERAPY SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVES OUTCOME IN 'WESTERN' PATIENTS WITH INTRAVASCULAR LARGE B-CELL LYMPHOMA *AJM. Ferreri, GP. Dognini, O. Bairey, A. Szomor, C. Montalbán, B. Horvath, J. Demeter, L. Uziel, R. Soffietti, JF. Seymour, A. Ambrosetti, R. Willemze, M. Martelli, G. Rossi, A. Candoni, A. De Renzo, C. Doglioni, E. Zucca, F. Cavalli, M. Punzoni.* *British Journal of Haematology* 2008 October; 143(2):253-257

We congratulate the authors and again thank the IELSG investigators for their commitment.

5. POLICY MATTERS

The following policy decisions were adopted by the Board of Directors:

- IELSG office must approve all IELSG abstracts submitted for presentation
- All manuscripts reporting the IELSG studies should be reviewed and approved by co-authors and peer reviewed by the IELSG office
- All protocols for trials that have not been officially opened should be classified as – a) proposed, b) approved - in development, c) approved - final to communicate to the members whether there are still opportunities to affect trial design or whether the trial protocol is final

6. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting will be held in Lugano on April 16th, 2010 jointly with the Educational Cancer Convention Lugano (ECCLU) of the ESO (European School of Oncology).

The 2011 meeting will be in Paris, France.

7. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The 2009 meeting in Toronto has allowed many North American investigators to participate. We hope this may result in a larger and fruitful collaboration of the IELSG with North American institutions. For this reason an official letter will be sent by the IELSG office to the large North American cooperative groups (CALGB, SWOG, ECOG, NCIC CTG) for inviting them to join the IELSG trials or at least to encourage participation of the interested centres.

Best wishes,

F. Cavalli, E. Zucca, A. Conconi, C. Morinini, S. Bernasocchi, E. Porro