Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma Communication Roadmap (DLBCL)



Diagnosis/Prognosis

- The most common, aggressive type of lymphoma
- DLBCL is considered curable. 60-70% of patients will be cured with 1L therapy⁴
- Use data from clinical trials to provide estimates of outcome, such as likelihood of response to therapy
- Empower patients to consider biomarker testing, such as FISH



Relapse

- Stress that DLBCL is curable, even if it has come back
- Inform the patient there are treatment options if it recurs
- Keep communication open during restaging, confirming relapse, and assessing treatment options
- Discuss referral to a center that offers CAR T-cell therapy, bispecific antibodies, and/or clinical trials
- Share data from studies about outcomes with frontline therapy



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Treatment Planning

· All treatment options

arrangements, fertility)

Educate the patient and their caregiver on:
The disease (biology and stage)
The body (other co-morbid factors)

• Get ready for treatment (IV access, work/home life

• Discuss goals of care with the patient and use this

information to develop a communication plan

Advance Care Planning

- Establish patient's goals and wishes for treatment
- Stress the importance of having a living will, power of attorney, and advance directive
- Educate patients on palliative care for symptom management



Survivorship

- Educate the patient on:
 - The importance of maintaining healthy behaviors.
 - Follow-up appointments
 - · Signs and symptoms to report
- Discuss potential for relapse and treatment options if it occurs
- Develop survivorship care plan
- Provide resources to patients to maintain connections (eg, support groups)
- Establish the timing and frequency of survivorship testing



End of Life & Bereavement

- Be honest and open with the patient
- Prioritize the patient's wishes
- Schedule family conferences to put a plan in place
- Understand when to stop treatment based on patient wishes
- Initiate DNR/DNI discussions
- Initiate inpatient or in-home hospice care
- Introduce support services such as bereavement programs and counseling

Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma Communication Roadmap

Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) is an aggressive disease affecting B-lymphocytes. There are many novel therapies and combination regimens currently being studied in clinical trials for the treatment of both newly diagnosed and relapsed/refractory DLBCL. Recently approved treatments, as well as those on the horizon, provide new hope for patients as therapeutic options become more targeted to and personalized for their disease. With these recent advancements, community cancer programs need to be educated on the role these therapies will play in the community setting and how best to integrate these new treatments into practice.

In response, the Association of Cancer Care Centers (ACCC) has developed a "Communication Roadmap," highlighting effective practices to support patients with DLBCL applied along the care continuum.

THE BASICS

30% of cases of non-Hougkin lympho are DLBCL in the United States.1 of cases of non-Hodgkin lymphomas (NHL)

30,000

new cases of DLBCL are diagnosed annually in the US.2

REFERENCES

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A publication from the ACCC education program, "Reframing the Conversation: Effective Practices for Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma." Learn more at accc-cancer.org/DLBCL.

The Association of Cancer Care Centers (ACCC) provides education and advocacy for the cancer care community. For more information, visit accc-cancer.org.

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